

DH



DECCAN HERALD

The Power of Good



Modi talks tough, backs Assam govt's eviction drive

Navi Mumbai airport initiates reshaping of MMR

Page 8





The strength of the

DEMOCRACY

lies in the

BALLOT



International Day of

DEMOCRACY

2025



GUARANTEE SARKARA

REBUILDING A NEW KARNATAKA



Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa,

Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare,

speaking on the democratic

principles enshrined in the

Constitution of India.

District-Level Cycle Rally | State-Level Bike Rally | Democracy Radio Program | Painting Competition for School Children

₹6 crore DBT Incentives for 1,000 Meritorious KREIS PU Students | Photography Competition | Speech Competition



Social Welfare Department | Youth Empowerment and Sports Department | Urban Development Department | Backward Classes Welfare Department
Tribal Welfare Department | Minority Welfare Department | Higher Education Department | Labour Department | School Education and Literacy Department
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department | Women and Child Welfare Department | Greater Bengaluru Authority | Bangalore Development Authority
Mysore Sales International Limited | Karnataka Milk Federation

SC quashes segregated trial of Cong MLA, upholds equality before law

Rebukes trial court in cases connected to 2023 Nuh communal violence

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The right to equal access to justice is an essential facet of the rule of law, and no person — whether a sitting MLA or an ordinary citizen — can be subjected to procedural disadvantage or granted preferential treatment without express legal justification, the Supreme Court said.

A bench of Justices JB Pardiwala and R Mahadevan quashed a trial court's order for segregation of the trial of Mammam Khan, a Congress MLA from Haryana, in cases connected to the 2023

Nuh violence.

The court stressed that expeditious disposal of cases involving legislators is undoubtedly desirable, but such administrative prioritisation cannot override the procedural safeguards guaranteed under the Criminal Procedure Code or the constitutional mandate of equality.

Allowing his appeal against the Punjab and Haryana High Court's order upholding the trial court's decision, the bench said that a fair trial formed part of the guarantee under Article 21 of the Constitution.

"Departure from established legal procedure — particularly without hearing the affected party — constitutes a serious constitutional infraction," Justice Mahadevan wrote in the September 12 judgment.

The court said that the segregation order, passed suo motu by the trial court without prior notice to the appellant, failed to meet constitutional and statutory requirements.

Finding the trial court's reliance on the SC's 2024 judgment in the Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay case to be misplaced, the court held that the appellant's mere status as a sitting MLA cannot, by itself, justify a separate trial.

"All accused stand equal before the law, and preferential segregation militates against the equality principle enshrined in Article 14. While the right to speedy trial is an essential facet of Article 21, it cannot be secured at the cost of fairness," the court said.

The court highlighted that the Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay judgment emphasised expedition, but it nowhere intended that such expedition be achieved by compromising the fundamental rights of the accused.

The court also noted that the only ground recorded for segregating the trial was the delay caused by the non-appearance of certain co-accused. The appropriate course would have been to segregate the absconding or defaulting accused — not the appellant, who was regularly present before the court.

The Haryana government defended the trial court's order, arguing that separate chargesheets had already been filed, charges framed and evidence was being recorded.

However, the court held that mere procedural progress cannot cure the inherent illegality in the manner in which the segregation was ordered.

The MLA was named as one of the accused in two FIRs filed on August 1, 2023, for offences including rioting, dacoity and criminal intimidation, in connection with the communal violence that occurred in Nuh on July 31, 2023.

Finance ministry official dies after BMW hits his bike in Delhi

NEW DELHI, PTI: A senior official of the Union Ministry of Finance was killed, and three people, including his wife, were injured after a BMW allegedly hit his motorcycle near Delhi Cantonment metro station on Ring Road here on Sunday, police said.

The deceased was identified as Navjot Singh (52), Deputy Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and a resident of Hari Nagar, they added.

Eyewitnesses told police that a woman was driving the car when it hit the motorcycle from behind.

Singh was driving the motorcycle, and his wife was riding pillion. They were rushed to a hospital in a taxi by the woman and her husband, who were in the BMW, according to the eyewitnesses.

Later, police were informed by the hospital where Singh and his wife were taken that he succumbed to injuries, while his wife, 50, was undergoing treatment.

Singh's son alleged negligence on the part of the hospital authorities in admitting his parents.

5.8-magnitude earthquake jolts Assam; 2 injured

GUWAHATI, DHNS: An earthquake of 5.8 magnitude struck Assam, with tremors felt in other parts of the Northeast and adjoining West Bengal on Sunday afternoon, leaving at least two injured and damaging several houses.

The first quake was reported at 4.41 pm with the epicentre in North Assam's Udalguri district, following which three aftershocks were reported.

The second jolt was measured at 3.1 with epicentre in Udalguri, while the third one was 2.9 with epicentre in Sonitpur district. The fourth tremor was of 2.7 magnitude and recorded at 6.11 pm.

While two girls got minor injuries after the ceiling of Danda Saharia Girls' hostel in Udalguri district collapsed due to the tremors, several houses in neighbouring Biswanath, Darrang, Hojai and Sonitpur developed minor cracks.

The ceiling of a community hall in Nalbari district also reported minor damage, said a preliminary report prepared by the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA).

Panic gripped Guwahati and the rest of Assam as the first earthquake hit the state at 4.41 pm. Residents rushed out of their houses and apartments out of fear.

No report of damage or cracks in buildings was reported in Guwahati till evening.

Betting app case: ED summons Urvashi Rautela & TMC ex-MP

NEW DELHI, PTI: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Sunday summoned former Trinamool Congress MP Mimi Chakraborty and Bollywood actress Urvashi Rautela in connection with



Urvashi Rautela



Mimi Chakraborty

a case of alleged money laundering linked to an illegal betting app, official sources said.

Mimi has been asked to depose before the agency on Monday at its Delhi headquarters regarding the case tied to the app 1xBet, while Rautela is set to appear on Tuesday, sources added.

On September 4, former cricketer Shikhar Dhawan was questioned for approximately eight hours by the agency in relation to the same case.

The ED is probing multiple cases involving illegal betting apps that are alleged to have duped numerous people and investors worth crores of rupees or have evaded a huge amount of taxes.

Naxal killed in Jharkhand

MEDININAGAR, PTI: A Maoist was killed in a gunfight with security forces in Jharkhand's Palamu district on Sunday morning, police said.

The deceased was identified as Mukhdev Yadav (40) alias Toofan ji, a self-styled sub-zonal commander of the banned Maoist splinter group Tritiya Sammelan Prastuti Committee (TSPC).

The encounter broke out in a forest area bordering Manatu and Tarhasi in the district. The body of Yadav, along with an INSAS rifle, a pistol and 146 live cartridges, was recovered from the spot.

No local body polls in sight for J&K

Statehood demand, pending OBC quota stall elections

ZULFIKAR MAJID
SRINAGAR, DHNS

The National Conference (NC)-led government in Jammu and Kashmir is unlikely to hold Panchayat and Urban Local Body (ULB) elections any time soon, with officials suggesting the exercise may not happen before at least April next year.

Even as New Delhi presses for the revival of grassroots democracy, the Omar Abdullah government appears focused on the larger political battle for the restoration of statehood.

Government insiders say there has been no move on key prerequisites — implementing the recommendations of a commission on reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and appointing a State Election Commissioner. "There are no chances of holding Panchayat and Urban Local Body polls this year. As of now, we have not received any such indication from the government," a senior official said.

The last Panchayat and ULB elections were held in 2018 during Governor's rule, after a gap of seven years when J&K was a state.

The NC and opposition PDP boycotted those polls after reports that the Centre would revoke Article 35-A, which gave special rights to the people in the erstwhile state and barred outsiders from owning immovable property.

With their term long expired, grassroots institutions remain defunct, and developmental works are being handled directly by bureaucrats.

While the Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj had writ-

ten to J&K in December 2024, urging fresh polls, the NC government is treading cautiously. Leaders argue that without full statehood, Panchayati Raj will remain a hollow exercise.

"You cannot talk of empowerment at the village level when the state itself has been disempowered," an NC MLA said.

Deeper tension

The hesitation also reflects a deeper, older tension. Since Panchayati Raj was introduced in J&K in 1978, successive governments have been reluctant to share real power with village-level representatives.

The 1978 elections under Sheikh Abdullah generated hope, but Panchayats were never given financial independence. In 2011, Omar Abdullah's government held polls after a long gap, but most bodies remained inactive.

The 2011 Panchayat elections were among the most participatory, with a turnout of over 80%. Yet, despite promises, Panchayats were denied control over funds and planning. Local representatives repeatedly complained of being sidelined by MLAs and bureaucrats.

This historical pattern reflects a consistent unease among MLAs. Strong Panchayats and municipalities are seen as diluting their authority and patronage networks.

"Legislators across parties have never wanted genuine devolution. They fear losing control over development funds and influence in their constituencies," a Srinagar-based political analyst noted.

‘Treason’, ‘misplaced priorities’: Oppn slams Centre over India-Pak match

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Opposition on Sunday attacked the Narendra Modi government for allowing the Indian cricket team to play Pakistan in the Asia Cup in Dubai, claiming that it was "treason" that it exposed the dispensation's "misplaced priorities".

This is the first India-Pakistan face-off on the cricket field after the April 22 terror strike in Pahalgam, in which 26 people were killed.

A section of political parties and cricket fans have been demanding that India not play the match, and have accused the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) of trying to make money.

Meanwhile, the Delhi Police denied the Shiv Sena (UBT) permission to organise a protest at Jantar Mantar against the match.

While AAP convenor Arvind Kejriwal called it "treason against the country" and said



Shiv Sena (UBT) workers show their sindoor-smeared hands during a protest against the India-Pakistan Asia Cup cricket match, in Navi Mumbai, on Sunday. PTI

"every Indian is extremely angry", Congress Lok Sabha deputy leader and Assam Congress president Gaurav Gogoi alleged that the government had chosen "profit and spectacle" over compassion and sensitivity.

Gogoi said the BJP government's decision to go ahead with the match "exposes its misplaced priorities" as "only a few months ago, innocent civilians lost their lives in the

Pahalgam terror attack, and their families continue to bear the pain of that tragedy".

"Yet this government has chosen profit and spectacle over compassion and sensitivity. By treating cricket as separate from the blood that has been shed on our soil, they have shown that money matters more than our people's suffering," he said.

He said such "indifference" is a "betrayal of national senti-

India unveils new framework to streamline revenue procurement

NEW DELHI, PTI

India on Sunday unveiled a new framework to streamline, simplify and rationalise the revenue procurement process for the armed forces with an overall focus on making available required resources without any delays.

The Defence Procurement Manual (DPM) 2025 lays down the guiding principles and provisions for all revenue procurements in the defence ministry valuing around Rs 1 lakh crore for the current fiscal, an official readout said.

"It will foster jointness among the three services and help in maintaining the highest level of military preparedness through expeditious decision making," it said. The DPM will "ensure timely availability of requisite resources to the armed forces and at appropriate cost", the ministry added.

The framework was released after it was approved by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

INDIGENOUS PUSH

■ **Faster, simpler defence procurement:** DPM 2025 streamlines Rs 1 lakh crore revenue procurement for FY 2025. Focus on speed, transparency, and fairness in acquiring goods/services for armed forces.

■ **Boost to jointness & military readiness:** Enables joint operations across Army, Navy & Air Force. Ensures the timely availability of resources to maintain high combat preparedness.

■ **Push for self-reliance:** New chapter added to promote indigenisation & innovation. Encourages collaboration with private sector, PSUs, and academia for in-house development.

■ **Industry-friendly reforms:** Eased contract rules, lower penalties for delays, and assured order guarantees. Empowers field-level officers, cuts red tape, and ensures faster supplier payments.

It said the new manual is aimed at achieving self-reliance in fulfilling the needs of the armed forces under the revenue head (operations and sustenance segment).

Procurement of goods and services by the defence services is regulated by the DPM. It was last promulgated in 2009.

Hindi not competitor but friend of other Indian languages: Shah

SATISH JHA
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

"Hindi is not a competitor but a friend of other Indian languages," said Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday.

Speaking after inaugurating the 5th All India Rajbhasha Conference in Gandhinagar on the occasion of Hindi Diwas, he added: "Hindi should become not only the language of conversation and administration, but also of science, technology, and justice."

He also said, "There is no conflict between Hindi and other Indian languages."

Shah continued, "Learned men like Dayanand Saraswati, Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Kanhaiyalal Munshi, Umashankar Joshi, and many other scholars in Gujarat accepted and promoted Hindi. Gujarati and Hindi have coexisted in Gujarat, which is a fine example of the development of both languages."

He claimed it was because of this coexistence that Gujaratis were accepted everywhere in the country.

Invoking Maratha ruler Shivaji's three principles of

"Swaraj (self-rule), Swadharma (faith), and Swabhasha (language)," Shah said they were "closely linked to the nation's self-respect".

Talking about the AI-powered translation app Bahubhasha Anuvad Sarathi, he said, "By training this software, we will keep enriching it further and, in the coming days, the citizens of this country will be able to communicate in their own language using this."

Speaking further about the digital "Hindi Shabd Sindhu", which started with 51,000 words and has now crossed 7 lakh words, he said it was set to become "largest dictionary among all languages in the world" by 2029.

Sports complex

Shah also inaugurated the Vinayak Damodar Savarkar sports complex in Ahmedabad's Naranpura, built at Rs 825 crore and equipped for national and international events. He hailed the facility as a landmark addition to the sporting infrastructure in the country. The complex, spread across 21 acres, is said to be equipped to host international events.



Religion and the legal maze of reservations for converts

For the upcoming Social and Educational Survey in Karnataka, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah wants Hindu converts to Christianity to identify themselves by their faith instead of their caste names. **Sumit Pande** explores the relation between religion and reservations to explain whether the policy of affirmative action applies to the Hindu castes who have converted to other religions.

What is the statutory basis for Schedule Caste reservations?

SC reservations are based on Article 341 of the Constitution, which empowers the President to notify a caste as a Scheduled Caste. In exercise of the power vested under the Article, the President issued an order in 1951, called the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, to create a schedule or a list of castes to be deemed as Scheduled Castes. Only Parliament is empowered to make changes in the Scheduled Caste list. The benchmark test for the inclusion of a community in the list is extreme social, educational and economic backwardness resulting from the traditional practice of untouchability.

Do religious converts from other backward classes get reservations?

Under Article 16(4), OBC reservations can be extended by state governments to any group or community not adequately represented in state services, and whose backwardness is objectively established. In the *Indra Sawhney v Union of India* (1992) judgment, the nine-member Constitution bench that upheld OBC reservations said that "no class of citizens can be classified as backward solely by reason of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, residence or any of them".

What is the statutory basis for inclusion in the Schedule Tribe reservations?

ST reservations emanate from Article 342, which empowers the President to notify a particular community as a Scheduled Tribe. The President's 1951 order created a schedule of communities to be deemed as Scheduled Tribes. The benchmark test for inclusion is primitive traits, distinctive culture, geographical isolation, shyness of contact with the community at large and backwardness.

What is the status of the Supreme Court case seeking to maintain the Scheduled Caste status after a change of faith?

The petitioners in *Ghazi Saaduddin v State of Maharashtra* pleaded that the Schedule Caste list be made religion-agnostic. They backed their contention with the recommendations of the Ranganath Mishra Commission set up by the UPA government in 2007, which maintained that willful change of religion should not affect a person's Schedule Caste status. The Narendra Modi government has informed the apex court that the recommendations were not accepted by the Union. In 2022, the Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry set up another three-member panel headed by former Chief Justice of India Justice KG Balakrishnan, which is yet to submit its report. The matter remains pending before the apex court.

How do Articles 341 and 342 differ in offering reservations to citizens who convert to other religions?

An individual belonging to the Scheduled Tribes professing any religion is entitled to affirmative action. But Article 342 carries a disclaimer that SC reservations are reserved for Hindus, Sikhs (included in 1956) or Buddhists (in 1990). In other words, anyone who converts to Islam or Christianity is not entitled to SC quotas, even if that person belongs to a caste (before conversion) that is in the SC list.

Are Dalit Muslims and Christians not entitled to reservations?

Scheduled Castes converted to Christianity or Islam are included in the Backward Classes lists of some states and are entitled to reservation benefits under such category. So, Dalit Christians and Muslims can get reservations under the OBC category, if the states so desire. The issue of extension of Scheduled Caste status to Scheduled Caste converts to Christianity and Islam is presently before the Supreme Court. In another matter last year, the top court did not recognise the SC status of a woman from Tamil Nadu after it was established that her family had converted to Christianity.

DH



DECCAN HERALD

The Power of Good

People have right to protest: UK PM Starmer

Remarks come after more than 1 lakh demonstrators join an anti-immigration march in London

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HC penalises ayurvedic colleges for unauthorised admissions

Page 3





Government of India

Viksit Bihar

Viksit Bharat



Gift of projects worth over ₹36000 Crore for the people of Bihar in Power, Railways, Airport, Housing and Urban Affairs, Jal Shakti, Rural Development, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Sectors

Laying of Foundation Stone for

• 3x800 MW Thermal Power project at Pirpainti (Bhagalpur)

• Kosi-Mechi Intra-State River Link Project Phase-1

• New Rail Line between Bikramshila - Katareah (26 KM)

• Interception & Diversion (I&D) and Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) works at Supaul and Katihar Districts

• Water Supply Projects at Darbhanga, Katihar and Bhagalpur

Inauguration of

• Interim Terminal Building at Purnea Airport

• New Rail Line between Araria - Galgalia (Thakurganj) (111 KM)

• Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) and Interception & Diversion (I&D), Bhagalpur under Namami Gange Programme

• Indigenous Bovine Sex-Sorted Semen Production Facility at Purnea

Flagging off of

• First Commercial Flight from Purnea Airport

• Katihar-Siliguri Express via Araria - Galgalia New Rail Line

• Saharsa - Chheharta (Amritsar) Amrit Bharat Express

• Jogbani - Danapur Vande Bharat Express

• Jogbani - Erode Amrit Bharat Express

Griha Pravesh under

• Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin) (35600 Beneficiaries of Bihar)

• Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) (5920 Beneficiaries of Bihar)

Distribution of Benefits under NRLM

• Community Investment Fund (CIF) of ₹ 500 Crore to Cluster Level Federations under National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) in Bihar and handing over of cheques to Five CLFs

Launching of

• National Makhana Board

Benefits of Projects

✈️

Development of New Civil Enclave at Purnea Airport will address the demand of air travel in the region

🚆

New lines and trains to boost connectivity for passenger and freight movement with efficient and affordable rail travel

⚡

Generation of Power from new thermal power plants will ensure greater availability of power for domestic and industrial consumption

🏠

New water supply networks will enhance sustainable water management and accelerate provision of tap water connections under Jal Jeevan Mission

🔥

Interception & Diversion (I&D) and New Sewage Treatment Plants (STP) would reduce river pollution and support the rejuvenation of Ganga

🏠

Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Rural & Urban), 41,520 families will become house owners

🐄

Bovine Sex-Sorted Semen Production Facility would lead to enhancing the dairy farmers income and reducing their economic burden

💰

Distribution of funds under National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) would lead to financial inclusion and empowering rural poor households / Self Help Groups

🌾

Major boost to the Makhana production, strengthening the presence of Bihar on the global map in this sector

by

Shri Narendra Modi

Hon'ble Prime Minister

Monday, 15th September, 2025

03.30 PM

Purnea, Bihar

in the august presence of

Shri Arif Mohammed Khan

Governor, Bihar

Shri Nitish Kumar

Chief Minister, Bihar

Shri Manohar Lal

Union Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs; and Power

Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; and Rural Development

Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh

Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; and Panchayati Raj

Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu

Union Minister of Civil Aviation

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw

Union Minister of Railways; Information & Broadcasting; and Electronics & Information Technology

Shri C.R. Patil

Union Minister of Jal Shakti

Shri Samrat Choudhary

Deputy Chief Minister, Bihar

Shri Vijay Kumar Sinha

Deputy Chief Minister, Bihar

Shri Rajesh Ranjan

Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)

Shri Vijay Kumar Khemka

Member of Legislative Assembly, Purnea



DD NEWS

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CBC 0311/15/001/2526

Sarjapur Road chokes under traffic pressure; cries for revival

Study proposes solutions to decongest 17-km stretch

NAVEEN MENEZES
BENGALURU, DHNS

For thousands of commuters who use Sarjapur Road on a daily basis, manuevering through the traffic snarl is nothing short of a daily punishment.

Now, a new study has warned that the 17-km stretch between Iblur and Sarjapur Junction—which is seeing high growth and job density—will get worse unless urgent measures are taken.

Titled ‘Fixing Sarjapura’, the study was prepared by V Ravichandar, member of the Brand Bengaluru committee in collaboration with WRI India, a not-for-profit organisation.

The report—after taking into account the road density and development activities around the 17-km stretch—has

proposed a total of 18 short-, medium- and long-term solutions to decongest the road.

Although the stretch has been designated an “arterial road” by the authorities, the study argues that Sarjapur Road does not function like one due to many minor road crossings and sparse network around it. It also notes that over 19,000 vehicles use the stretch daily, 85% of them private cars and two-wheelers.

Among the 10 immediate solutions recommended are: providing uniform road widths to eliminate bottlenecks, building service lanes, ensuring pothole-free stretches, and running high-frequency shuttle buses, among others. In the medium and long term, researchers have recommended a new Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP), reserving



A view of Iblur Junction on Sarjapur Road. DH FILE PHOTO

alignments in the master plan to plug missing links, and expediting metro and suburban rail. The report underlines that Bengaluru’s traffic crisis is not limited to Sarjapur alone. The city has been adding nearly 150 sqkm of built-up area every decade since 1990, but the road density has not kept pace with the development.

For instance, road density in Sarjapur stands at just 10 km of road per square kilometre of area—compared to 30 km in Vijayanagar and 23 km in Jayanagar, which are older neighbourhoods. In Whitefield, Dommasandra and Doddakannelli, where the growth

The fine print	
Area	Road density (per sqkm)
Jayanagar	23 km
Vijayanagar	30 km
Whitefield	8 km
Doddakannelli	14.5 km
Dommasandra	12 km
Sarjapur	10 km

is currently sharpening, road density is even lower, ranging between 8 and 14.5 km.

The study also said projects like the Peripheral Ring Road and Satellite Town Ring Road—meant to decongest the city—continue to be stuck.

Summary of issues (ORR to Sarjapur Road)

- Undulating widths causing several bottlenecks along the entire stretch.
- Major intersections have minor roads.
- Junctions remain unresolved in terms of geometry, road marking, lane widths, pedestrian safety, etc.
- U-turn locations cause backlog and traffic build-up.
- Metro yet to start construction on this stretch.
- Shuttle buses not plying from existing metro stations.
- Bus networks/frequency sparse in the area.
- Absent road network hierarchy such as arterial, sub-arterial, collector, feeder and local roads in all areas.
- Important alignments such as PRR and STRR never realised.

Rs 106 cr in traffic fines

BENGALURU, DHNS: The 50% discount on pending traffic e-challans yielded well over Rs 106 crore during the 19-day period.

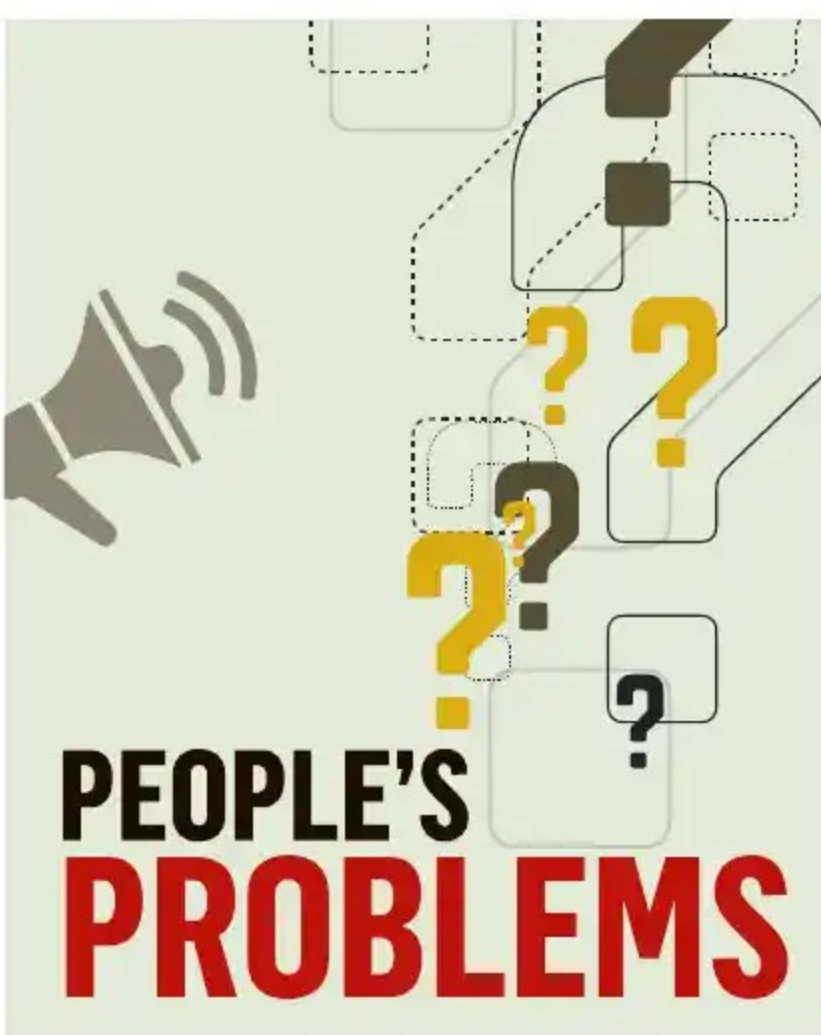
Between August 23 and September 14, a total of 3,86,173 cases were settled, netting Rs 106 crore, according to the Bengaluru Traffic Police.

◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL
International Democracy Day Celebration: CM Siddaramaiah, DyCM DK Shivakumar and Speaker UT Khader to attend; Banquet Hall, Vidhana Soudha; 11 am.

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST
Generally cloudy with light rain
TEMPERATURES
Maximum 28.0°C
Minimum 20.0°C
Rainfall (as of 8:30 am) --
Humidity (as of 5:30 pm) 68%
Sunset (Sep 15) 6:22 pm
Sunrise (Sep 16) 6:09 am
Moonrise 0:00 am
Moonset 12:27 pm
(Relevant data recorded at 5:30 pm) Source: IMD



Need a hand? Write to us

Letters of grievances are pouring in and we are doing our best to accommodate as many as possible. Readers may write in to highlight civic problems affecting their locality and we will help address them in an interactive and effective manner.

Grievances and issues related to public utility agencies such as Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTCL) and Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (BESCOM) would be highlighted in the weekly column.

The writeups, which could be accompanied by photographs highlighting the problems, will be published on Mondays. Mail your grievances to: peoplesproblems @ deccanherald.co.in

Six students, hostel warden arrested over ragging and sexual assault of minor boy

BENGALURU, DHNS

The police on Saturday arrested six students of an international school hostel near Electronics City in connection with the alleged ragging and sexual assault of a minor boy.

The hostel warden was arrested on September 10, while the school principal has been summoned for questioning, the police said.

The arrests followed a complaint filed by the victim’s parents after their son was subjected to physical and psychological abuse.

The warden was taken into custody for failing to take appropriate action despite being aware of the ongoing abuse. He is accused of negligence and complicity, which allowed the harassment to continue unabated.

According to the police, the 15-year-old boy was allegedly targeted by the six senior students over four days in early September.

The harassment included verbal abuse, physical assault, and other forms of cruelty,



which traumatised the victim.

The suspects stripped the boy on the night of September 3 and forced him to dance naked. They hit the boy with different objects, including steel hangers when he stopped dancing.

The same group again went to the boy’s room the following night, stripped him, and forced him to dance naked. When the boy stopped dancing, he was sexually assaulted.

The mistreatment continued on the nights of September 5 and 6. They poured hot and cold water on him before leaving, the complaint said. The complaint claimed the

Law student assaulted for dropping off girl in car

BENGALURU, DHNS: A first-year BBA LLB student at a reputable college in the city was allegedly assaulted and threatened by two individuals following a college freshers’ programme on September 10.

The complainant, Sesu Srujan, was driving with friends after the college event. He was dropping off two female friends, when two men approached his car and asked one of the girls to step out of the vehicle to talk to her. When she refused to step out, they allegedly targeted Srujan.

When he refused to exit the vehicle, the suspects, Prajwal and Akshay, reportedly pulled him out of the car. They then hit him on the face, forehead and eyes with their hands, kada (men’s bangle) and a ring, causing him to bleed.

The attackers also allegedly attempted to hit the victim with a stone before threatening to kill him and fleeing the scene.

Srujan suffered visible injuries, sought medical treatment at a private hospital, and later filed a complaint at the Yelahanka police station.

hostel warden was angry with the boy for helping fellow students complain to the principal about his misbehaviour.

A case has been registered at the Bannerghatta police station under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita

(BNS), the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act including those related to causing hurt and criminal intimidation, as well as provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Pocso) Act.

Waste collection goes to dogs in Thyagarajanagar

Garbage collection in Thyagarajanagar 3rd Block has gone to dogs, literally.

In spite of repeated complaints, authorities are not bothered to address a garbage black spot near ESI Hospital in Thyagarajanagar 3rd Block.

Officials and garbage collection staff need to be changed every three months.

Garbage collectors do not report for work regularly. When we make a complaint, garbage is promptly collected for two to three days and then it’s the same story afterwards.

The area comes under Basavanagudi/Doddaganapati (ward 154/198). Officials in charge of solid waste management have become highly irresponsible.
Pralhad DG



In spite of repeated complaints, authorities have not cleared a garbage black spot near ESI Hospital in Thyagarajanagar 3rd Block.

Hospitals not accepting Vay Vandana cards

It is unfortunate that no hospital in Bengaluru and other cities accept the Ayushman Vay Vandana cards, which provide free medical treatment up to Rs 5 lakh for seniors aged 70 and above. The scheme is praiseworthy, but hospitals are simply

not accepting these cards.

The government should take a suitable decision and instruct the hospitals to accept the cards forthwith.
SG Prabhakar

Ban Ganesha processions

It is high time public processions of Ganesha idol immer-

sions were banned in view of the fatal accidents in Maddur and Hassan. There should be a limit to this madness. Every human life is precious. Let us worship at home and in temples peacefully.
BS Chandrashankar
Malleswaram

Water supply disruption is unfair

The BWSSB has announced that there will be no water supply in some parts of Bengaluru from September 15 to 17.

It is hard to think how the water board took such a decision in the name of carrying out essential maintenance works. Imagine the suffering of households without having access to water.

Since the BWSSB has already taken this decision, it must now supply water in tankers to all the wards. Otherwise, private tankers will loot the public.
R Ranganathan
UAS Layout

MURDER-SUICIDE PACT

Couple strangles children; husband dies, wife survives

Mounting financial problems behind macabre incident near Hoskote

BENGALURU, DHNS

Burdened by mounting financial troubles, a couple allegedly killed their two children before attempting to end their own lives in a suspected suicide-murder pact.

Only the wife survived and has been booked for murder.

The incident was reported from Hoskote taluk’s Gokanakahalli, about 35 km east of Bengaluru city centre.

Shivakumar (32), his daughter Chandrakala (11), and son Uday Surya (7) were found dead at their house late on Saturday evening. His wife, Manjula, 30, survived and has been taken into custody for murder.

The police said Shivakumar once worked menial jobs. However, he severely injured both of his legs following an accident four years ago and became immobile.

His family struggled to make ends meet.

The family borrowed heavily for his treatment, but there was little improvement. Manjula’s meagre earnings as a domestic worker were insufficient to cover medical costs or the mounting debt.

The couple then decided to kill themselves as well as the children, as they didn’t

want them to become orphans.

On Saturday afternoon, the children were reportedly strangled in their sleep and later submerged in a bucket of water, a police officer close to the investigation told *DH*.

Before attempting suicide, Shivakumar asked Manjula to get him snacks, as it would be their last meal. When she returned, she found he had hanged himself, the officer added.

Manjula then called up a relative, narrated the incident and gave instructions regarding the last rites before trying to take her own life. However, the relative rushed to the house and alerted the police, helping rescue Manjula just in time.

The police have shifted the three bodies for post-mortem.

No water supply in over half of city from Sept 15-17

BENGALURU, DHNS: In a move that could affect more than a half of city residents, the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has announced that there will be no supply of Cauvery water for three days from September 15.

This is perhaps the first time in the recent past that the disruption will stretch for three days.

In a press note, BWSSB Chairman V Ram Prasath Manohar said various pumping stations of the Cauvery Water Supply Project would remain shut on September 15, 16 and 17 for scheduled emergency maintenance. “This will lead to disruption in supply across many areas of the city,” he said.

“These works are being carried out to ensure smooth functioning and long-term efficiency of the Cauvery pumping stations and major pipelines, so that uninterrupted drinking water can be supplied to Greater Bengaluru,” the note said.

Power supply disruption

BENGALURU, DHNS: There will be power supply disruptions between 9 am and 5 pm from September 15 to 29 in 34 localities.

The disruption has been necessitated by emergency maintenance works and will impact areas in Bescom’s Hebbal division, according to a press release.

As per the press note, the Cauvery Stage V pumping station will remain shut for three days while the pumping stations of Cauvery Stage I, II, III, IV (Phase 1 and 2) will remain shut for 24 hours from 6 am of September 16.

The impact is expected to be severe in the city’s core area given that residents either do not have borewells or they are dry. The city’s outskirts are unlikely to be affected.

Software engineer with Microsoft among two killed in road crashes

BENGALURU, DHNS: Two people, including a software engineer, died in separate incidents in different parts of the city, the police said.

Swaroop (26), a resident of Papareddy Palya, died after his two-wheeler hit a road divider under the Jnanabharathi traffic police station limits at 11.45 pm.

Swaroop, who worked for Microsoft Corporation, was returning home from work when he reportedly lost control of his Royal Enfield motorbike inside the Jnanabharathi campus. The motorbike first hit a hump and then crashed into a road divider. He sustained grievous injuries and died on the

way to the hospital. The body was handed over to the family after the post-mortem. The police have registered a case.

In the second fatal accident, Nibin Jacob (28), a resident of Selvapura, near Chikkabanavara, died after his motorbike hit a roadside rock around 11.30 pm.

Jacob was riding with his friend on the pillion when he lost control of the two-wheeler and crashed it into the rock on Selvapura Main Road. While Jacob died on the way to the hospital, his friend escaped with minor injuries.

Jacob was a car mechanic and was returning from work when the accident occurred. A case has been registered.

BENGALURU BOOKIES

A weekly ritual to rekindle forgotten love of quiet book reading

BENGALURU, DHNS

Bengaluru Bookies, a silent book-reading community, hosted its first-ever weekly silent reading session at the Karnataka State Central Library in the Seshadri Iyer Memorial Hall on Sunday.

The bookies, trying to start a book-reading movement, usually hold their weekly events in public parks in Koramangala.

Sowmya Ramesh and Kavya Digge, the hosts for Bengaluru Bookies, told *DH*: “We started last November and have been hosting the session every Sunday without a miss. We have recently started looking for opportunities to collaborate to provide more exposure to our readers.”

About 100 people from all walks of life gathered at Cubbon Park on Sunday, including children as young as five and adults as old as 70.

“We capped the participants to 100 this time to not disturb the general public at Cubbon Park,” said Soumya.

While some readers brought their own books to read, others used the books available at the library. “We recommend books when readers ask us, but we do not provide books to avoid influencing the readers,” she added.



The silent reading session, organised by ‘Bengaluru Bookies’ at the state central library at Cubbon Park, drew a large number of enthusiasts on Sunday.

DH PHOTO/MS MANJUNATH

Moving forward, the bookies hope to conduct book drives to collect books from readers and provide them mainly to children who do not have access to books.

Sharing her experience with Bengaluru bookies, Madhura, a reader, said, “I have been part of this community for eight months now. The timing of the event is perfect because it gives us peaceful hours of reading without any distractions.”

Another participant, Abhinandan, said: “Personally, this community has helped me to get back to my forgotten love after a long long break.”

Developer booked for defrauding housing society of Rs 62 crore

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Central Crime Branch (CCB) has registered a case of cheating and criminal breach of trust against two partners of a Bengaluru-based development firm, Shri Ganesh Developers, for allegedly defrauding the Telecom and Government Employees' Welfare Housing Co-Operative Society of Rs 62 crore.

The FIR was filed following an investigation ordered by the Joint Commissioner of Police (Crime), who heads the CCB. According to Chunchaiah, the president of the co-op, an MoU was signed with Shri Ganesh Developers on January 23, 2015, to buy and develop a parcel of land for society members. Over a period, society members paid a total of Rs 62 crore to the developers via RTGS transactions through three separate MoUs. However, the partners of the firm — Y M Ramagopal and K Narayanaswamy — allegedly misappropriated the funds and failed to develop the plots as per the agreement. Another partner, Nagesh Shetty, passed away after the initial MoU was signed.

The fraud came to light when the developers reportedly showed no intention of fulfilling their contractual obligations, prompting the society to lodge an official complaint. A preliminary inquiry was conducted, and the report was submitted to senior officials. Based on the findings, the Joint Commissioner of Police (Crime) ordered a formal investigation. The CCB has registered a case under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

Fake mechanics take elderly travellers for a ride on Hosur Road

Replace 'faulty sensor', demand 'road safety fee'

BENGALURU, DHNS:

A new scam seems to be trending on Hosur Road where fraudsters pose as mechanics who increasingly target elderly travellers.

On September 2, N Lakshmanan (76) and his 70-year-old wife were driving into Bengaluru from Chennai in their

Maruti Wagon R when two men on a motorcycle flagged them down near Hennagara Main Road, Bommasandra.

The men indicated that smoke was coming from the car's left wheel. Alarmed, Lakshmanan stopped, after which the men introduced themselves as service mechanics from a car maker. They then



A file photo of the busy Hosur Road in Bengaluru.

asked him to open the bonnet and rev the engine, claimed they saw sparks and insisted a "faulty sensor" needed urgent replacement.

This caught Lakshmanan off-guard, making him believe that

there indeed was an issue and allowed the men to continue.

One man fetched a small gadget, supposedly from a Maruti service station nearby, pretended to install it, and demanded Rs 18,000 for the supposed repair.

The men demanded payment only in cash and refused any UPI transaction.

With little cash and fearing engine failure, Lakshmanan withdrew Rs 15,000 from a nearby Karur Vysya Bank ATM at Chandapura with his wife's credit card, where a fraudster accompanied him inside, and added Rs 3,000 from his wallet to meet their demand.

Only after visiting an authorised Maruti service centre near Ramaiah College, Sanjaynagar, on September 4, did the couple learn that no sensor had been replaced and the car was mechanically sound.

"I lost my senses during this

'sensor' episode. I want people warned so they don't get trapped," he said.

Similar incidents have been reported elsewhere in the city.

In a video posted on X, a user highlighted the scam on Hosur Road, where "safety fee" flyers were handed out to drivers on the highway. The user complained of a gang demanding Rs 400 as a "road safety fee" especially from out-of-state vehicles.

Similar incidents include a smoke-and-mirror trick, where other motorists have described being stopped by riders who create panic about fake smoke or sparks, then stage costly "repairs".

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that our client intends to purchase Unit bearing Nos. 501, 502 of the 5th floor and Unit Nos. 601 and 602 of the 6th floor, admeasuring a combined area of approximately 84,660 square feet of saleable built up area including 102 car parking areas, in Tower B of the building known as 'Centennial', constructed on Property bearing Survey Nos. 74 & 77, comprising of Plot Nos. 8A, 8B, 8C & 8D admeasuring 9.72 acres, situated at Doddanekundi Village, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Whitefield, Bangalore East Taluk along with proportionate undivided share of land in the above described Property (more fully described in the schedule below and hereinafter referred to as the 'Schedule Property'). The Schedule Property is owned by Arliga Ecoworld Infrastructure Private Limited ('Company').

Any person/s, entity, firm, banks, institution (corporate or otherwise) having any direct or indirect claim/s including any right, title, interest, charge, objection, pending litigation or demand of any nature in or upon the Schedule Property or any part thereof, including *inter alia* by way of sale, transfer, assignment, exchange, share, lease, sub-lease, tenancy, sub-tenancy, leave and license, license, lien, mortgage, charge, encumbrance, occupation, devise, covenant, trust, gift, *lis pendens*, option, release, relinquishment, litigation, agreement, deed, document, conveyance deed, development agreement, letter of intent, devise, decree or order of any Court of Law, any contracts, partnership or allotment or otherwise should bring the same to the notice of the undersigned in writing together with all details of the right, title, interest, charge, objection, claim, pending litigation or demand made, together with supporting documents within 14 (fourteen) days from the date of this notice, failing which such claim shall be considered to have been unconditionally waived, released, relinquished, disregarded, abandoned and/or given up and our client shall be entitled to complete any transaction in respect of the Schedule Property or any part thereof, without regard to any such alleged right or claim. Objections and/or claims received after the expiry of the period stipulated above shall not be binding on our client and it shall subsequently be deemed that the title of the Company to the Schedule Property is clear and marketable, and free from any and all encumbrances, claims, disputes and of whatsoever nature.

Schedule Property

All that piece and parcel of Unit bearing Nos. 501, 502 of the 5th floor and Unit Nos. 601 and 602 of the 6th floor, admeasuring a combined area of approximately 84,660 square feet of saleable built up area including 102 car parking areas, in Tower B of the building known as 'Centennial', constructed on Property bearing Survey Nos. 74 & 77, comprising of Plot Nos. 8A, 8B, 8C & 8D admeasuring 9.72 acres, situated at Doddanekundi Village, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Whitefield, Bangalore East Taluk along with proportionate undivided share of land in the above described Property bounded as follows:

East by : Private Property
West by : Main Road
North by : Road
South by : Road

Date : 15-09-2025
Place : Bengaluru

Arjun K Perikal
Advocate

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co.
Prestige Sterling Square, Level 2, State Bank of India
Bengaluru - 560 001.
Email: arjun.perikal@amsmshardul.com

ಕೃಷ್ಣಾ ಭಾಗ್ಯ ಜಲ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ

ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರವರ (ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಉದ್ಯಮ)

ಕಛೇರಿ, ಕೃಷ್ಣಾಜನಿನಿ, ನಾವದಂಕಾ ವಿಭಾಗ,
ಹುಣಸಗಿ, ತಾ: ಹುಣಸಗಿ.

ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ : ಯಾದಗಿರಿ, ರಾಜ್ಯ : ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ



Office of the
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
KBJNL NLBC Divn., Hunasagi
Email : Kbjnleenlbc123@gmail.com

ಕ್ರಮಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕೃಷ್ಣಾಜನಿನಿ/ನಾವದಂಕಾವಿಹು/ಖಬಿ/2025-26/ 391 ದಿನಾಂಕ:- 12.09.2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಸಂಕ್ಷಿಪ್ತ ಚಿಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಮಾನ್ಯ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕೃಷ್ಣಾ ಭಾಗ್ಯ ಜಲ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ, ಅಲಮಟ್ಟಿ / ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕೃಷ್ಣಾಜನಿನಿ, ನಾವದಂಕಾ ವಿಭಾಗ ಹುಣಸಗಿ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ 2025-26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಗೊಂಡಿರುವ **Two Cover System ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 02** ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಚಿಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. **Qualification criteria** ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿರುವಂತೆ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಅರ್ಹ ದರ್ಜೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಭಾಗವಹಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. ಸದರಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿ ಚಿಂಡರು ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂ. 391 ದಿನಾಂಕ:- 12.09.2025 ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮೊಹರಾದ ಶೇಕಡಾವಾರು ಚಿಂಡರ್ ಗಾಗಿ ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ, ಚಿಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ವಿವರ	ಚಿಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ
1.	ಚಿಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯನ್ನು ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಲು ಹಾಗೂ ಚಿಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ದಿ: 15.09.2025 ರಿಂದ 22.09.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ
2.	ಪೂರ್ವ ಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: (ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರರು, ಕೃಷ್ಣಾಜನಿನಿ, ನಾವದಂಕಾ ವಿಭಾಗ ಹುಣಸಗಿ ಇವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ)	ದಿ: 20.09.2025 ಮುಂಜಾನೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ
3.	ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಚಿಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ದಿ: 22.09.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ
4.	ಚಿಂಡರ್ ನ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ (ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರರು, ಕೃಷ್ಣಾಜನಿನಿ, ನಾವದಂಕಾ ವಿಭಾಗ ಹುಣಸಗಿ ಇವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ)	ದಿ: 24.09.2025 ಮುಂಜಾನೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ
5.	ಚಿಂಡರ್ ನ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ (ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರರು, ಕೃಷ್ಣಾಜನಿನಿ, ನಾವದಂಕಾ ವಿಭಾಗ ಹುಣಸಗಿ ಇವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ)	ದಿ: 29.09.2025 ಮುಂಜಾನೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ (ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ)

ಅಸಕ್ತಿ ಹೊಂದಿದ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> ನಲ್ಲಿ ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದ್ದು ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರರು, ಕೃಷ್ಣಾಜನಿನಿ, ನಾವದಂಕಾ ವಿಭಾಗ ಹುಣಸಗಿ ಇವರಿಂದ ಕಚೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರರು
ಕೃಷ್ಣಾಜನಿನಿ, ನಾವದಂಕಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಹುಣಸಗಿ

Music, workshops & stalls add sheen to queer-friendly flea market

BENGALURU, DHNS: The annual queer-friendly flea market "Maya Bazaar" took place in Jayamahal on Saturday and Sunday.

The social networking event caters to gender and sexual minority organisations and NGOs to spread awareness and showcase their work.

The event, which took place from 10 am to 10 pm, had over 160 stalls that sold various things from clothes, pottery, pickles and more.

The event also hosted multiple workshops on Tie&Die, Flow, Quilt Making and had live music and performances lighting up the day.

Notable performances on Sunday were by the dance crews such as the "Lehengays", "wild wild women" and a tribal fusion belly dance.

Veena Kulkarni, co-founder, Maya Bazaar, noted that this year's edition had 20% more online sales of tickets.

"This year's edition of Maya Bazaar was a success. A lot of the stalls sold out on their stock on Saturday and had to



A sign language interpreter from 'India Deaf Queer' interprets a performance on stage during Maya Bazaar on Sunday. DH PHOTOS

restock on Sunday."

She went on to add that Maya bazaar was started to create a safe space for all. "Anyone who attends this event can sit and look at the people around them, and feel safe."

The organisations that were part of the event included the LGBTQIA wing of the All India Profession-

als' Congress, the Solidarity Foundation, which supports sex workers and gender/sexual minorities in South India, trans rights organisation Jeeva, the All Inclusive Foundation, which works with neurodivergent children, and the India Deaf Queer, which interpreted all the performances in International Sign Language (ISL).



'Bharat Ratna'
Sir M. Visvesvaraya
Founder

ಸರ್ ಎಂ.ವಿ. ಸ್ಮಾರಕ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ ಸಮಾರಂಭ

SIR M V MEMORIAL AWARD CEREMONY

Monday
15th September 2025

Sir M V Auditorium
FKCCI, K.G. Road, Bengaluru



Estd. 1916

RECIPIENT

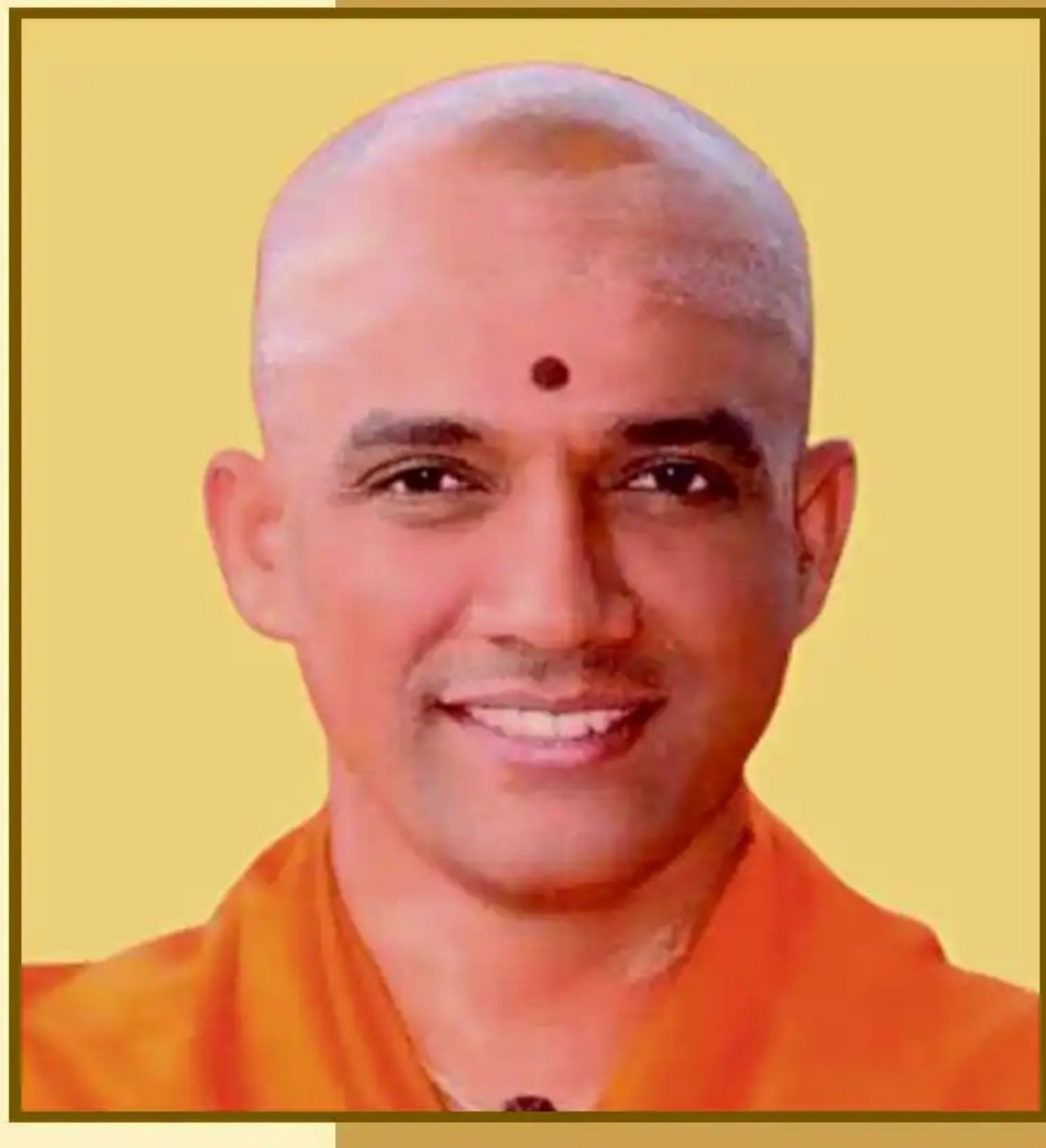


'Bharat Ratna'
SIR M VISVESVARAYA
MEMORIAL AWARD 2025

Dr. C N MANJUNATH

Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha
Cardiologist & Former Director of Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, Bengaluru

With the divine presence of



Parama Pujya Jagadguru
Sri Sri Sri
Dr. Nirmalanandanatha
Mahaswamiji
Pontiff of Sri Adichunchanagiri Mahasamsthana Math

Chief Guest



Sri Ashwini Vaishnaw
Hon'ble Minister for Railways, Electronics & Information Technology, Information & Broadcasting Government of India

Presided by



Sri M G Balakrishna
President, FKCCI



Uma Reddy
President - Elect



T Sairam Prasad
Sr. Vice President - Elect



Ramesh Chandra Lahoti
Imm. Past President



K Ramaswamy
Past President & Chairman
Sir M V Award Jury Committee

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಮಹಾಸಂಸ್ಥೆ

FEDERATION OF KARNATAKA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
Federation House, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009 | T: 080 22262355/56 | www.fkcci.org

BJP leaders
booked for
violating HC order
during protest

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Up-parpet police in the city have registered an FIR against leaders from BJP for violating high court orders during their recent protest at Freedom Park.

According to the suo motu FIR, police had given permission for staging a protest between 10 am and 5 pm on September 10. The protest, led by state BJP president B Y Vijayendra, was against the state government's internal reservation policy for Scheduled Castes. It was to be strictly restricted to Freedom Park as per high court orders dated March 3, 2022.

Around 10 am, 4,000-5,000 party workers led by Vijayendra gathered for the protest. However, around 3 pm, the party's former Kudachi MLA, P Rajeev, violated the court by disrupting public movements near the sky-walk at Seshadri Junction.

He led around 200 protesters and sloganeered against the government.

BJP slams BCCI
over Indo-Pak
clash

► BENGALURU, DHNS: The high-profile India-Pakistan cricket clash has stirred political controversy, with senior BJP leaders – Haveri-Gadag MP Basavaraj Bommai and former deputy chief minister Dr C N Ashwath Narayan – voicing strong objections to the match on Sunday. They cited public sentiment and recent acts of aggression linked to Pakistan.

Speaking to reporters here, Bommai accused the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) of being deaf to public emotions.

Ashwath Narayan said: "As soon as people hear the name Pakistan, they get furious." "It's a neighbouring country – we can neither break ties nor maintain them properly."

HC penalises ayurvedic colleges
for unauthorised admissions

Heavy penalty for admitting
students sans letters from KEA

AMBARISH B
BENGALURU, DHNS

The Karnataka High Court has imposed a cost of Rs 3 crore on three Ayurvedic colleges for admitting students without allotment letters from the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) in the academic years 2022-23 and 2023-24.

The cost will have to be paid in favour of the Armed Forces Battle Casualties Welfare Fund, a division bench said.

The colleges penalised are TMAE Society Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital,

Shivamogga (Rs 1.5 crore), Ramakrishna Medical Hospital and Research Centre, Yelahanka, Bengaluru (Rs 75 lakh) and Achutha Ayurvedic Medical College, Bengaluru (Rs 75 lakh).

The colleges had moved the High Court with different petitions, seeking approval for admissions made against unfilled seats and permission for those students to continue their studies.

They had admitted students who were not routed through KEA counselling and hence, the admissions are in violation of regulation 5(7)(i) of the



IN THE
HIGH COURT

NCISM regulations.

The college managements argued that admitting students against unfilled seats did not violate any legal provisions and that admission of students was their fundamental right.

On the other hand, the advocate for KEA submitted that the students admitted by the colleges appear to be those who blocked their seats with the colleges to get themselves admitted, just before the closure of the last date of admission.

It was further submitted that in the event of any relief to be granted, the academic credentials and NEET eligibility of these students had to be verified and only such students who qualify for the admission criteria may be considered for admission.

A division bench comprising Justices D K Singh and Venkatesh Naik T rejected the submissions made by the petitioners observing that the admissions were against regulations 5(7)(i), 5(9), and 5(10) of the NCISM - National Commission for Indian System of Medicines (Minimum Standards of Undergraduate Ayurveda Education (MSAE)) Regulations, 2022.

The petitioner institutions may have the right to admit students against the sanctioned intake, but admissions have to be made only in accordance with the MSAE regulations, and

the managements of the colleges are not entitled to make admissions on their own, the bench said.

'Furnish details to KEA'

"However, to save the interest of the students admitted by the petitioner colleges over and above the allotment made by KEA, we direct the petitioner-colleges to furnish the details of all students admitted before KEA within a period of ten days from today for verification by the KEA about the eligibility of the students admitted by the petitioner-colleges. The KEA will examine the credentials of each student to find out whether such a student was eligible for admission or not. List of all eligible students should be forwarded to NCISM as well as RGUHS by KEA. Admissions of only those students shall be approved by the said authorities," the bench said.

BJP flays CM
for 'undermining
Hinduism, backing
conversions'

BENGALURU, DHNS

The political battle in the state escalated on Sunday as senior BJP leaders – former minister C T Ravi and state president B Y Vijayendra – launched a sharp attack on Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, questioning his remarks on inequality and casteism in Hindu society and alleged that the state government was promoting religious conversions through its policies.

While Ravi issued a strongly worded open letter, Vijayendra posted a blistering statement on X, accusing the Congress government of pursuing an anti-Hindu agenda under the guise of social justice.

In his letter, Ravi challenged Siddaramaiah's statement that inequality exists within Hinduism, asking whether inequality exists only in Hindu society.

caste structures under new religious identities.

Defending Sanatana Dharma, Ravi underlined its teachings of equality, including concepts like "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" (the world is one family) and "Sarve Janah Sukhino Bhavantu" (may all beings be happy). Ravi challenged critics to produce even a single Vedic mantra or vachana that supports inequality, asserting that saints like Buddha, Basavanna, Ramanujacharya, and Kanakadasa all worked to remove social discrimination, not reinforce it.

In his post on X, BJP state president Vijayendra accused the Congress government of denigrating Hinduism and now provoking Hindus to convert. He claimed that CM Siddaramaiah's remark – "If there was equality in Hinduism, why would people convert?" – indirectly promotes religious conversion.

Siddaramaiah using caste census as tool
to secure position, says Bommai

New column for
converted Christians
unconstitutional:
Former CM

BENGALURU, DHNS

BJP MP from Haveri-Gadag Basavaraj Bommai on Sunday alleged that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah was using the ongoing caste census survey as a political tool to secure his position amid an unfolding leadership tussle in the Congress.

Speaking to reporters here, he said that the socio-economic survey – commonly known as caste census – was primarily designed to safeguard Siddaramaiah's political future and to block Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar's chances of becoming CM.

Bommai questioned the necessity of collecting caste data in socio-economic surveys, asking why caste was required for such surveys. He pointed out that the CM had directed the commission to submit the caste census report by December, implying that the timing was politically motivated.

This is because a faction within Congress, supporting Shivakumar, wants him to be made the CM in December.

The MP said that the government lacked the authority to conduct the caste census, maintaining that this jurisdiction was exclusively of the central government.

On recording of religious conversions to Christianity in the census, Bommai said the Constitution recognised only six religions, which should alone be listed.

However, he claimed that the government introduced a new column for converted Christians, effectively treating

it as a new religion – a move he called illegal, unconstitutional and politically motivated.

The MP said, "Conversions happen on both sides, but why has the CM only legitimized conversions to Christianity? He has gone a step further by calling conversion a right".

Referring to the state's anti-conversion law, Bommai said conversions were driven by desires and temptations, with poverty and lack of education exploited to induce change of faith. He questioned the authority behind adding the converts' column, asking under which law was it done and who authorised it.

On the inclusion of "atheist" column in the census, the

former CM sarcastically remarked that it was created just for Siddaramaiah. He accused the All India Veerashaiva-Lingayat Mahasabha of being completely pro-Congress.

He urged the Mahasabha to provide suggestions aligned with law and the Constitution and avoid creating confusion.

The MP stressed the need to clear the identity confusion within the community – sometimes called a new religion, at other times Veerashaiva, Lingayat, or Veerashaiva-Lingayat, warning that the public would make their own decisions otherwise.

Bommai said senior BJP leaders were seriously discussing the matter.

He argued that various forms of inequality – economic, social, educational, and religious – are present across communities and even within the Congress party itself.

He cited the case of former minister K N Rajanna, who was allegedly forced to resign for disagreeing with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, as an example of inequality within the Congress.

Ravi also accused the Congress leaders of hypocrisy, pointing to Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar's apology over a party issue related to praising Mother India by singing the RSS anthem in the Assembly, a couple of weeks ago.

Ravi argued that inequality exists among Christians and Muslims too and questioned why caste-based labels persist even after religious conversion. He criticised conversion as failing to eliminate caste and accused those promoting it of replicating Hindu

Vijayendra alleged that the government is planning to repeal anti-cow slaughter and anti-conversion laws and criticised the inclusion of Hindu caste names labelled as "Christian" in a Backward Classes Commission list. Instead of correcting the move, Siddaramaiah made remarks that Vijayendra claimed reflect anti-Hindu sentiments.

'Silent on issues related to Islam'

He further accused the chief minister of remaining silent on issues within Islam, such as women's oppression, and questioned his silence when Prime Minister Narendra Modi abolished Triple Talaq.

Vijayendra concluded that Siddaramaiah's mindset is fundamentally opposed to Hindu Dharma and Indian culture and said the Congress government's recent actions were exposing a pattern of anti-Hindu policies.



Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister



Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister



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Sri N.A. Haris, MLA, Shantinagar Assembly Constituency & Chairman, BDA, addressing a meeting on development of Bengaluru City.



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**GST reforms
bring no relief to
differently abled**
GST relief, from Page 1

Hearing aids cost between Rs 70,000 and Rs 7.5 lakh depending on the model. “While basic models are not that expensive, some patients need models with special features that tend to be more expensive,” said Dr Amitav, an audiologist.

Cochlear implants, also called artificial electronic ears, are taxed at a 5% concessional GST rate while their accessories attract applicable GST, usually capped at 18%.

Vipul Bansal, Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, Karnataka, said: “Healthcare services are not charged under GST but medical equipment are capped at 5%, mainly because GST moves on the principle of value addition. If the raw material used for making an equipment is already taxed and the value is added to it upon production, then, as a customer, you are just paying tax on the increment on the value of the end product. That is why we cannot cut down on the GST on medical equipment.”

Sharath Kumar, in his early 30s, who lost his arm in an accident in 2015, said reducing GST on disability aids would really help because these are already expensive and are often not covered by insurance. “I just recently paid off my medical debt on my surgery and arm prosthetic because it was not covered by insurance,” he said.

DH

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15th September, 2025
at 3:30 PM
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Main Road, Bengaluru
followed by Burial at
St. Pious X Cemetery,
Kammanahalli
Deeply mourned by:
Mary Joseph (wife)
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Sharavathi power project will destroy protected monuments: Activists

'EIA denies existence of heritage structures of 16th century'

CHIRANJEEVI KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

Head of the public hearing for the much-opposed power project in the Sharavathi Lion Tailed Macaque (LTM) sanctuary, activists have called out the state government for denial of the existence of four historical monuments listed by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in the project site. The Karnataka Power Cor-

poration Limited (KPCL) pumped storage project seeks to generate power by pumping water from Talakale reservoir (upstream) and Gerusoppa reservoir (downstream). The project requires 133.81 acres forest and involves felling of 16,041 trees. The public hearing is slated for the project in Shivamogga on Tuesday and in Uttara Kannada on Thursday. Shivamogga-based history enthusiast Ajay Kumar



Chaturmukh Basadi, listed as 1242nd protected monument by the Archaeological Survey of India, is situated very close to the project site..

B S, however, wrote to the government noting that the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) deliberately overlooks the existence of the monuments. The 16th century monuments are the legacy of Rani Chennabhairadevi who

ruled from 1552 to 1606 from her capital Gerusoppa. “She is the longest reigning queen in Indian history. She also fought the Portuguese who gave her the title ‘Rainha de Pimenta’ that translates into ‘The Queen of Pepper’ as her king-

AJAY KUMAR B S
History enthusiast

The area contains numerous historical heritage monuments, inscription stones and other unstudied items. We require the Dharwad circle of ASI to take up a thorough study before KPCL is allowed to turn a stone in this area.

dom was known for exporting spices to European and Arab countries,” he said.

He said the maps provided by KPCL situate the project in the forests that were once part of the Gerusoppa kingdom.

There are four protected monuments listed by the

ASI in the area. Chaturmukh Basadi, Vardhaman Swami Temple, inscriptions and Virbhadra Temple. “These matters should have been covered by the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) report, which essentially denies the existence of the monuments. The KPCL cannot go ahead with the project this way,” Kumar said, in a letter written to the senior officers of the Forest Department.

Interestingly, the KPCL has responded with ‘no’ to the question raised by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on if the project has “any impact on anthropological or archaeological sites or any important site featuring in the vicinity of the proposed site”.

Ballari cops bust child-lifting gang, rescue infant

BALLARI, PTI: The Ballari police have busted a child-lifting gang operating in the district hospital and rescued a one-and-a-half-month old baby within 24 hours of the abduction, officials said here on Sunday.

Superintendent of Police Shobha Rani said the accused Shameem, her husband Ismail, and an accomplice Basha allegedly kidnapped the child on Friday and later sold the infant to Basavaraj Mahantappa of Toranagallu. Basavaraj, who had been childless for 19 years, had approached Basha, a quack, after failing to adopt legally due to stringent rules, the SP said.

D’sthala SIT holds marathon meeting on further probe

UDUPI, DHNS

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) under Director General of Police (DGP) Pronab Mohanty held a marathon meeting on Sunday to chalk out next course of investigation.

“DGP Mohanty visited the SIT office and chaired a high-level meeting with senior officials, including Chief Investigation Officer Jeetendra Dayama and Superintendent of Police C A Simon,” sources told *DH* when contacted. Mohanty first scrutinised the progress of investigation, inspected the documents and evidences gathered so far. He reportedly discussed the future course of action while reviewing the financial aspects of the SIT’s functioning.

The meeting examined in depth the complaint filed by Mahesh Shetty Timarodi of Rashtriya Hindu Jagarana Vedike. Timarodi had raised suspicions about four unnatural deaths in various lodgings in Dharmasthala between 2006 and 2010. Mohanty obtained feedback from officials before taking a decision

on whether to expand the investigation in that direction, sources told *DH*.

Meanwhile Timarodi alleged that “vested interests” were attempting to “weaken” the SIT.

In a separate development, one Venkappa Kotian filed a complaint before Belthangady police against activist Snehamayi Krishna. A few days ago, Snehamayi Krishna, in his complaint to police, had alleged that Vittal Gowda, maternal uncle of Soujanya, was responsible for her murder in 2012. Kotian alleged that Krishna initially informed the police about filing a complaint against Vittal Gowda and later issued statements to the media.

He claimed that these actions were carried out with “malicious intent” to derail the ongoing campaign seeking justice for Soujanya. Kotian expressed suspicions that Krishna was motivated by ‘unknown individuals’ to issue controversial statements. Kotian urged the police to summon Krishna for questioning and to identify persons who instigated him to file the complaint.

DH CHANGEMAKERS TO WATCH IN 2026

Nominations Open

Each year, DH recognises extraordinary people who persevere and overcome difficult odds to usher in change.

Since the DH Changemaker awards were launched in 2019, we have identified 150-plus trailblazers from across Karnataka in areas such as community empowerment, health, conservation, entrepreneurship, and the arts.

This year, it is time to begin our search for 15 Changemakers -- we seek to highlight their efforts, celebrate their achievements, and share their stories. On New Year's Day in 2026, we will publish print, web and video stories about these achievers.

We invite nominations from readers starting today. Send in details of individuals (below 45) and teams that you think deserve the Changemakers title and honour.

The last date for submitting nominations is September 18, 2025. Scan the QR code to make a nomination.



After demography panel, PM backs...

Modi in Assam, From Page 1

BJP leaders here said Modi's rallies are part of the ruling party's preparation for the Assembly polls.

The saffron party is aiming at retaining power in the northeastern state for the third straight term.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who recently visited the state, also endorsed the eviction drives by the Sarma government and said the BJP would remove all “infiltrators” from the country.

Later in the day, in another function in Golaghat district in eastern Assam, Modi launched projects worth over Rs 12,000 crore.

In Assamese-dominated Golaghat too, the PM attacked the Congress, accusing it of shielding “infiltrators”.



Mysuru district administration led by District in-charge Minister H C Mahadevappa, extends formal invitation of Dasara to erstwhile royal family member Pramoda Devi Wadiyar at the Palace in Mysuru on Sunday. DH PHOTO

Mysuru dist admin ready with plan for Dasara crowd management

SHILPA P
MYSURU, DHNS

With just a week left for Dasara to begin on September 22, the preparations are brisk in the city of palaces.

In view of stampede at Chinnaswamy stadium in Bengaluru recently, Mysuru District In-charge Minister H C Mahadevappa said that they had already come up with a comprehensive action plan to manage additional crowd during this year's Dasara.

“Stampede at Chinnaswamy stadium occurred as there was not much prior preparation. Here we are well prepared in advance,” he added.

Mysuru Deputy Commissioner G Lakshmikanth Reddy said that this year, the number of seats on the premises of Mysuru Palace had been reduced from 60,000 to 48,000.

With the influence of social media, the district administration is expecting to receive at least 20% excess crowd this year compared to last year.

According to Deputy Conservator of Forest LB Prabhu Gowda, the

number of people had doubled on Raja Marga to witness elephants during their touring.

In order to manage the crowd, it has been decided to hold Yuva Dasara at Uttanahalli, on the outskirts of the city, for the second consecutive year.

Noted singers like Arjun Janaya, Preetham, Zubaan, Devi Sri Prasad and Sunidhi Chauhan will perform from September 23 to 27. Arrangements have been made to accommodate more than a lakh people, said Mysuru SP Vishnuvardhana.

Drone show at Bannimantap grounds will be more attractive this year, as CESC plans to use 3,000 drones to come up with various formations. A total of 1,500 drones were used last year. It will be held on September 28, 29 and October 1 and 2 at the Bannimantap grounds.

Invitation extended

Meanwhile, Mysuru district administration, led by Minister H C Mahadevappa, extended formal invitation of Dasara to erstwhile royal family member Pramoda Devi Wadiyar at the residential portion of Mysuru Palace on Sunday.



Kempegowda
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT
BENGALURU

Name and Address of the entity seeking Proposal:
Bangalore International Airport Limited
BIAL Project Office,
Kempegowda International Airport,
Bangalore 560 300
Web: www.bengaluruairport.com;

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

FOR CARRYING OUT “Engineering, Procurement, Construction (EPC) for Terminal 2 Phase 2 including T2-T1 connectivity, Apron Stands & Associated Works” AT KEMPEGOWDA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, BENGALURU (“Project”).

Bangalore International Airport Limited (“BIAL”), a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956, is the developer, owner and operator of Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru (“**Airport**”). BIAL is committed to establish this Airport as one of India’s leading airports, in terms of quality and efficiency and set a benchmark for the future commercial development of Indian airports. Growth in the Indian aviation market and the Bengaluru region has necessitated the need for expansion of the Airport to accommodate additional passengers and flights.

Towards this purpose, BIAL intends to undertake “**Engineering, Procurement, Construction (EPC) for Terminal 2 Phase 2 including T2-T1 connectivity, Apron Stands & Associated Works**” to accommodate the anticipated increase in passenger capacity. (“**Project**”).

The Approximate Areas are defined as:

- Terminal 2 Phase 2: Approximate 2,78,000 Sqm
- T2-T1 Connectivity: Approximate 28,000 Sqm
- Apron Stands (Approx 40 nos.): Approximate 4,37,500 Sqm

The EPC Contractor shall be fully responsible for the end-to-end execution of the project, encompassing, but not limited to Excavation, Civil, Structural, Architectural, MEPF, ICT, Landscape and Softscape related works, Airport Systems, Equipment, Apron Pavement Works, ORAT (Operational Readiness and Transfer) across Terminal, Airside and Landside areas. This responsibility includes securing all necessary statutory approvals. The Contractor shall ensure seamless coordination with Design Consultants, the Project Management Consultant (PMC), relevant authorities, and all other stakeholders to ensure the successful completion of Works. The successful contractor will coordinate with the related contractor.

BIAL invites interested applicants to submit their Expression of Interest (“EOI”).

Information on the invitation to EOI can be obtained from BIAL <https://www.bengaluruairport.com>; (“**Information Document**”). The Tendering process for this Project is through e-tendering. Applicants shall register on e-portal, as per the e-tendering instructions provided with the Information Document.

Applicants shall view/download EOI document from e-portal <https://www.bialtenders.com> from IST 10:00 Hrs. on 15th September, 2025 to IST 17:00 Hrs. on 15th October, 2025, Event ID : 3486

Addendum if any, to this invitation to EOI shall be made available on BIAL website and e-portal

Proposal must be submitted online at <https://www.bialtenders.com>) on or before **IST17:00 Hrs. 15th October, 2025**.

Address for communication
Vice President- Procurement & Contracts.

Engineering, Procurement, Construction (EPC) for Terminal 2 Phase 2 including T2-T1 connectivity, Apron Stands & Associated Works

Bangalore International Airport Ltd.
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Email: t2p2@bialairport.com
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Indian-Americans donate more to Democrats than Republicans: Study

Report analyses 2 decades of political donations using Federal Election Commission data

HOUSTON, PTI

Indian-Americans overwhelmingly favour Democratic candidates, contributing nearly three times more to their campaigns than to Republicans, a new study shows. The research, titled “An

Emerging Lobby: An Analysis of Campaign Contributions from Indian-Americans (1998–2022),” was conducted by Karnav Papat and Vishnu Prakash of Ashoka University, along with Joyojeet Pal of the University of Michigan. Study, released in September 2025, analyzed two decades of political donations using Federal Election Commission data compiled by OpenSecrets.

During the 2020 presidential election cycle, Indian-Americans donated USD 46.6 million to Democratic candidates compared to USD 16.3 million to Republican candidates. In 2016, only 0.6 per cent of Indian-American contributions went to then-President Donald Trump’s campaign.

The study found that Indian-Americans’ contributions are concentrated in sectors such as technology, finance, healthcare, and academia, enhancing their political visibility. Indian-Americans now number over 4.9 million, with six elected to Congress in the 2024 elections.

While the study does not cover the 2024 cycle, it underscores the community’s growing political engagement and consistent preference for Democratic candidates.



Indian-Americans gather outside the Indian Consulate in San Francisco to show support for India. PTI FILE

UK won’t tolerate racial intimidation: Starmer

LONDON, PTI: British Prime Minister Keir Starmer condemned the assaults on police officers and racist intimidation on Sunday, a day after a massive anti-immigrant protest turned violent and injured scores of police officers.

The ‘Unite the Kingdom’ protest, organised by far-right activist Tommy Robinson and addressed remotely by American tech billionaire Elon Musk, descended into chaos on Saturday with at least 26 police officers hurt in clashes and 24 arrests.

In his first official response to the violence on the streets not far from 10 Downing Street, Starmer took to X to condemn intimidation of people based on their migrant background.

“People have a right to peaceful protest. It is core to our country’s values,” said Starmer. “But we will not stand for assaults on police officers doing their job or for people feeling intimidated on our streets because of their back-



Keir Starmer

ground or the colour of their skin,” he said. “Britain is a nation proudly built on tolerance, diversity and respect. Our flag represents our diverse country and we will never surrender it to those that use it as a symbol of violence, fear and division,” he added.

On Saturday, the Met Police said an estimated 1,50,000 gathered for a rally that heard speeches against immigration as the British Union Jack and St George’s flags were waved by crowds.

“There is no doubt that many came to exercise their lawful right to protest, but there were many who came intent on violence. They confronted officers, engaging in physical and verbal abuse and making a determined effort to breach cordons in place to keep everyone safe,” said Met Police Assistant Commissioner Matt Twist.

US, China conclude first round of talks on trade & TikTok

Madrid meeting sees cautious progress; economic dialogue to resume today

MADRID, REUTERS

US and Chinese delegations have wrapped up their Sunday meeting to discuss tariffs, TikTok and the economy held in Madrid, and plan to resume talks on Monday, a US government official told Reuters.

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and Chinese Vice Prime Minister He Lifeng, who head the respective delegations, were leaving the venue having concluded talks for the day, the official said, but some of their negotiating teams would remain for further technical discussions into the evening.

Talks today centered on TikTok, tariffs and the economy, the official said, offering no further details.



US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent (Right) and Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng during trade talks at Santa Cruz Palace, in Madrid, Spain, on Sunday. REUTERS

Beijing rejects tariff threats

China’s Foreign Minister Wang Yi has rebuffed the US call to G7 countries to impose tariffs on countries purchasing oil from Russia, saying that war cannot solve problems and “sanctions only complicate them.”

“China does not participate in or plan wars, and what China does is to encourage peace talks and promote political settlement of hotspot issues through dialogue,” Wang Yi said in an apparent reference to US Treasury Secretary Scott

Bessent’s call to G7 ministers to impose sanctions on countries importing oil from Russia.

A US Treasury Department statement said on Saturday that Treasury Secretary Bessent during a call with G7 finance ministers, reiterated President Donald Trump’s call to G7 countries that if they are truly committed to ending the war in Ukraine, they should join the US in imposing tariffs on countries purchasing oil from Russia.

“China is a responsible major country and also a country with the best record on peace and security issues,” Wang said during talks with his Slovenian counterpart Tanja Fajon on Saturday. “War cannot solve problems, and sanctions will only complicate them,” Wang said, adding that China insists on resolving international disputes through dialogue and consultation, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

Bessent’s statement did not name any country. But the US has often blamed India and China for purchasing Russian oil even when there are no tariffs on Beijing for it.

US alliance never been stronger: Netanyahu on Rubio visit

Trump has rebuked Israel over attack on Qatar

JERUSALEM, AFP

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday that a visit to Israel by top US diplomat Marco Rubio underscored the strength of ties between the allies, days after an unprecedented Israeli strike targeting Hamas leaders in Qatar drew broad criticism.

The attack on the US ally and key mediator in Gaza truce talks has prompted Arab and Muslim leaders to gather for a show of solidarity in Doha, where Qatar’s prime minister urged the world to reject “double standards” and hold Israel to account.

US leader Donald Trump has rebuked Israel over Tuesday’s strike, and Rubio acknowledged to reporters before departing Washington that the president was “not happy” about it, but he insisted the attack would not “change the nature of our relationship with the Israelis”.



US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu shake hands, in Jerusalem. REUTERS

Nevertheless, the strike has put renewed strain on efforts to secure a ceasefire in Gaza, and Rubio allowed that the United States and Israel were “going to have to talk about” its impact.

Netanyahu has defended the operation – which targeted Hamas officials gathering to discuss a new US ceasefire proposal – saying killing the group’s leaders would remove the “main obstacle” to ending the Gaza war. On Sunday, Rubio offered prayers at Jerusalem’s sacred Western Wall.

Netanyahu said afterwards that the visit showed the Israeli-American alliance was “as strong, as durable as the stones in the Western Wall that we just touched”.

73-yr-old Sikh woman detained by immigration authorities in US

NEW YORK, PTI: A 73-year old Sikh woman has been detained by immigration authorities in California after she went for a routine check-in with the US agency, sparking protests and concerns among her family and members of the community.

Harjit Kaur, who has lived in the East Bay in Northern California for more than 30 years, was detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials during a routine check-in earlier this week, a report in Berkeley’s side, a nonprofit news portal, said.

The report added that her family along with hundreds of members from the community organised a protest Friday, calling for the immediate release of Kaur, who was detained on Monday after ICE asked her to come to the San Francisco office to turn in additional paperwork.

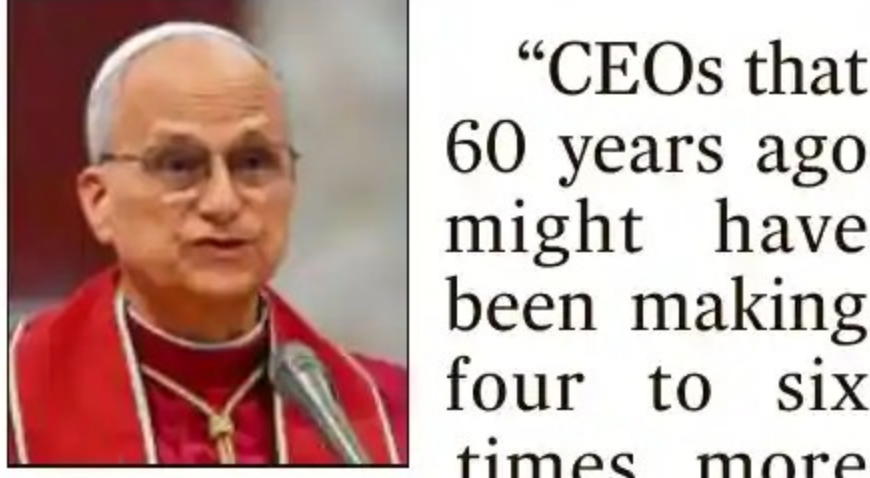
Harjit Kaur was undocumented, according to a report. She came to the United States in 1992 from India as a single mother with two sons. Her asylum case was denied in 2012, but since then she has “faithfully reported” to ICE in San Francisco every six months for more than 13 years, her daughter-in-law Manji Kaur said.

Pope Leo criticises high, Musk-style corporate pay packages

VATICAN CITY, REUTERS: Pope Leo criticised corporate pay packages that offer executives much higher salaries than their employees in excerpts from his first media interview released on Sunday, citing Tesla’s recent \$1 trillion compensation plan for CEO Elon Musk.

Leo, originally from Chicago, also spoke about the United Nations, his decades working as a missionary in Peru, how he has been adapting to the role of pope, and his hopes for peace in the bloody, three-year conflict between Ukraine and Russia.

He has shown a more reserved style than his predecessor Pope Francis, who often gave interviews, and prefers to speak from prepared texts. Sunday’s excerpts were released on the Catholic news site Crux.



Pope Leo XIV

“CEOs that 60 years ago might have been making four to six times more than what the workers are receiving ... 600 times more (now),” Leo said in the interview, conducted at the end of July for a coming biography.

“Yesterday (there was) the news that Elon Musk is going to be the first trillionaire in the world,” he said. “What does that mean and what’s that about? If that is the only thing that has value anymore, then we’re in big trouble.”

Leo, elected the first US pope by the world’s cardinals in May to replace Francis, criticized the UN as no longer being able to foster effective multilateral diplomacy.



Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon’ble Chief Minister



Sri D.K. Shivakumar
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Where fashion falters: The life and afterlife of clothes

RUNA RAY

Take a walk down Commercial Street in Bengaluru, and you will see vibrant shops, colourful clothes, and a crowd eager to buy. The entire cluster around it thrives on fashion, feeding every desire, dream, and fantasy. From embroidered garments to men's wear to shoes, the streets are adorned not just with merchandise but also with people willing to buy. Vendors sell cucumbers and guavas to shoppers who languidly wander, often picking up garments they may or may not truly need.

Fashion today faces heavy scrutiny around its waste. Consumers are blamed for overconsumption, while brands are questioned for failing to ensure circularity. Circularity simply means extending the life of a garment, giving it new purpose beyond its intended shelf life.

In India, this comes naturally. Hand-

me-downs, donations, and repurposing are woven into our social fabric. Unlike in developed countries, where fast fashion dominates and disposal is inadequate, Indian households instinctively extend a garment's journey. Clothes are worn, altered, transformed, and eventually passed along—ensuring little ever goes to waste.

Fast fashion, however, is the real culprit. In the United States, for example, old clothes rarely get repurposed; products exist for every specific task, rendering an old t-shirt unnecessary even for mopping floors or wiping windows. Garments thus end up in landfills long before they wear out.

I remember being handed my aunt's pinafore as a child. It was too long, so my mother hemmed it to fit my knees. Each year, as I grew taller, she would remove the hem and sew another. The faded stitch lines became a quiet record of my growth, much like rings inside a tree trunk. Sarees

too had their journeys—handed down with reverence, transformed into kurtis for modern wear, or reimagined into household items. Scraps became scrunchies or scarves. This practice of reuse and transformation extends to every corner of India, ensuring clothes always find a second life.

As one of the largest textile-producing nations in the world, India can be seen as the birthplace of fashion. Yet the birth of textiles often remains undocumented. Behind the bright fabrics lies an invisible cost: toxic dyeing, bleaching, and fumes released into residential air. In Bengaluru's Electronic City, residents suffer chronic coughs and illnesses from garment factories in the vicinity. This is environmental racism—once relegated to rural communities of lower economic standing but now creeping into urban centres due to rapid industrialisation.

Pollution is equally visible in waterways.

In Kolkata's leather complex, rivers have become foul sludge, choked with chemicals and animal waste despite the existence of recycling systems. With the rise of fast fashion—largely synthetic—the problem multiplies. Cotton garments eventually biodegrade; petroleum-based t-shirts and polyester blends may outlast generations. Even as Lakmé Fashion Week highlights "sustainability", the very same platform supported by Reliance helps promote mass-produced synthetics sold in their stores, thereby making a mockery of the concept.

As a society, we tolerate inconvenience. We navigate unfinished flyovers that linger for a decade or roads dug up each season. Rarely do we protest; instead, we develop habits of endurance and silence. This cognitive dissonance carries into fashion. When we buy a white salwar suit on Commercial Street and would like to change

the colour to pink, we simply send it to the dyeing unit on Ibrahim Sahib Street.

Purchase, stitching, alteration, and dyeing—all can be done in one hub. The system works seamlessly above ground, dazzling us with convenience. Yet if one observes closely, the same street that dazzles with colour also carries its shadow. The nala that runs parallel to Commercial Street tells another story—the water darkened with dyes, its flow slowed by waste, silently mirroring the cost of our bargains.

Do clothes carry philosophy? In India, we are taught that death is not an end but a passage. The Garuda Purana reminds us: what is born will die, and what dies will be born again. This eternal rhythm shapes our understanding of existence. Should garments, which guard us against heat and cold, mark our rituals, and help us express joy and sorrow, not also be respected in their birth, their life, and their passing?

We have long excelled at extending a garment's afterlife—handing it down, altering it, transforming it into something new. But its beginnings matter too. As the Bhagavata Purana says, "From purity comes strength, and from impurity, decay." A garment's birth—in polluted rivers or in clean, careful hands—shapes its destiny and ours. Poisoned waters, toxic air, and silent health tolls are the hidden costs of beginnings we ignore.

We may cherish the afterlife of clothes as they pass from one hand to another, but the silence surrounding their birth reveals uncomfortable truths. If we are to truly honour what clothes and protects us, we must not only celebrate garments' longevity but also confront the conditions of their creation.

(The writer is a fashion environmentalist collaborating with the United Nations and World Bank on fashion and sustainability)

The arson that blazed last week added to the suffering in a country where fires maim and kill with shocking regularity

HANNAH BEECH AND BHADRA SHARMA

The mob descended on the former Nepali prime minister's house around noon Tuesday. One person uncorked a plastic bottle filled with gasoline and doused the curtains. A match was struck. The flames moved fast.

The former prime minister, Jhala Nath Khanal, was not at home in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. But other household members raced up the stairs from one floor to another. Khanal's son escaped from a balcony. His mother, Ravi Laxmi Chitrakar, a science professor, was trapped on the fourth floor, which broiled like a kiln. Smoke seethed around her.

By the time a rescue team found her, she had suffered extensive burns, including to her hands and face. Chitrakar's airway was singed by the smoke, her lungs deeply damaged.

Chitrakar was transported to Nepal's only specialised burn unit, where she remains in intensive care, despite various media outlets reporting that she had died. The burn unit in Kirtipur Hospital in Kathmandu is a critical resource in a country where fires maim and kill with shocking regularity.



One of 27 supermarkets owned by a wealthy businessman, considered close to the political elites, torched in Kathmandu on September 12. THE NEW YORK TIMES

After fiery protests, Nepal reckons with its future

offices and homes of politicians and businesspeople connected to the leadership.

The original student protesters, who call themselves Gen Z, have dissociated themselves from the coordinated arson spree and wider chaos. More than 50 people have died in the violence, a police spokesperson said Friday, a majority of them protesters.

Thapa, the activist for burn victims, said he had been in communication with protesters who expressed regret for how the violence spiralled out of control. He had advice for them.

"I told them, 'You burned this country down,'" he said. "Now you had better do something about the burn issue."

Chitrakar, 70, faces months and even years of gruelling treatment, including surgeries. Her husband, Khanal, a communist leader who once operated an underground cell, has been unable to meet her. Top politicians like him, even retired ones, have been vilified in social media campaigns for being members of Nepal's pampered political elite.

But Chitrakar did not appear to be among the ostentatious. Even when her husband became prime minister in 2011, she never moved into the official residence. Instead, she lived at home and continued to walk to the university where she taught.

"It was only when she became first lady that I came to know that her husband was a politician," said Rabindra Shrestha, one of her former students who is now the principal of a medical college in the city of Pokhara.

The recent outbreak of arson also injured ordinary Nepalis unconnected to the nation's leaders.

Two cousins in Siraha district in southern Nepal watched a small crowd of student protesters form early Tuesday. The

violence didn't start until just after noon, when thousands of people descended, some spraying the local bazaar with gasoline. The new arrivals did not look like students, said the cousins, who ran a small photocopy shop next to a municipal government building. As the crowd unleashed flames, the cousins tried to save their shop when a gas canister exploded. They were caught in the inferno, suffering burns and eventually being transported to the specialist unit in Kathmandu.

Birendra Kumar Sah, one of the cousins, said he had initially joined in the Gen Z protests. He, too, was angered by Nepal's endemic corruption, the wealth gap and the stranglehold on politics by a select few. But his face and body are now ravaged by burns.

"I supported the protests thinking it would change the system," he said, as a nurse dressed his wounds before placing a cloth mask on his face. "But I'm the one who has been changed."

His cousin, Sibam Sah, lay next to him in the spartan ward, groaning as his mother applied a burn ointment to his face. The photocopy shop has been reduced to ashes, like so many businesses across Nepal.

Nepal's burn victims are particularly vulnerable because they are overwhelmingly poor and from remote corners of the Himalayan nation. Some villages lack roads at all.

Climate change has made Nepal's forests more vulnerable to blazes, environmental researchers said. Fireworks, deployed during holy festivals, add to the toll. But one source of burns has waned. For years, men poured out their anger at women in terrifying liquid form, tossing acid on their faces. The chemicals burned the women's features. But in 2020, with Thapa's lobby-

ing, the penal code was strengthened to hold accountable not only the perpetrators but also those who sold the acid. Over the past couple of years, no acid attacks have been reported.

At the Kirtipur hospital Friday, one of the patients was a little boy whose hand had been electrocuted when he was playing games on a cellphone plugged in to a faulty power source. Another was a 17-year-old girl from western Nepal, who had been cooking fried rice when bubbling oil splashed her body. It had taken her three days to arrive in the capital.

Shankar Man Rai, the head of the Kirtipur hospital cleft palate and burn unit, is a plastic reconstructive surgeon. He reads about innovative burn treatments available in the West but knows that such therapies are unaffordable in Nepal. Most of his patients have no money, but their cases cost about \$3,000 on average to treat. The burn unit depends on donations and funds from international charities to operate.

"We are like the neglected stepchild of surgery," he said. "It's very challenging."

This month, the hospital was supposed to break ground on a dedicated burn unit with 70 beds that would be finished in two years' time. The project was to be funded by one of Kathmandu's richest businesspeople. But this past week, 27 of his supermarkets burned nationwide, presumably targeted because he was seen as close to the country's political elite. The nearly \$6 million burn unit donation is now in doubt. Many of the nation's public records were destroyed in the arson strikes, complicating efforts to provide basic health care.

"Everything has gone up in smoke," Thapa said. "It happened in an instant, and we will be paying for it for years."

The New York Times

How Gen Z is burning down the old order

AAKASH SINGH RATHORE

From a Tunisian terrace overlooking the Mediterranean, I watched flames erupt on Greta Thunberg's boat, a fiery beacon in the September sky. The Global Sumud Flotilla, docked in nearby Sidi Bou Said, was struck by what activists called an Israeli drone strike—a blazing symbol of Gen Z's fearless stand against goliaths. That fire, mirrored by burning streets in Nepal and defiant chants in France, ignites a truth: September 2025 is Gen Z's inferno, a generation torching the old order to forge a new one.

This week, Nepal's youth toppled Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli on September 9, sparked by a social media ban. In France, Prime Minister François Bayrou also fell on September 9 after a 364-194 vote loss over austerity, fuelling Gen Z's 'Block Everything' roadblocks. In the US, the assassination of conservative activist Charlie Kirk on September 10 at Utah Valley University exposed the lethal edge of campus rage.

In the UK, Youth Demand's pro-Palestine rallies saw nearly 900 arrests by September 7, defying bans to block arms factories. From Sri Lanka's 2022 unrest to Bangladesh's 2024 uprising, Gen Z is on fire, refusing to wait for permission to reshape a broken world.

In Nepal, a ban on 26 social media platforms lit the fuse for a generation choked by 20% youth unemployment and the flaunted wealth of 'nepo kids'—politicians' privileged kin. Gen Z didn't beg; they stormed parliament, set Singha Durbar ablaze, and clashed with police, leaving around 20 dead and hundreds injured. Oli's resignation was their victory, their demand for an interim government under ex-Chief Justice Sushila Karki a battle cry. This wasn't protest—it was power, a refusal to accept the status quo, but instead a spark to demand change.

Here in Tunis, Thunberg, the 22-year-old climate warrior turned Palestine advocate, led the flotilla to smash Israel's Gaza blockade with aid. When drones—suspected Israeli—set two boats ablaze, Thunberg roared, "We will not be stopped." Her Gen Z crew, chanting 'Free Palestine', fused eco-fury with anti-imperial fire, undeterred by Tunisian denials of drone activity or past interceptions. In the USA, Kirk's killing—a sniper's bullet from a college-aged suspect during a campus clash—laid bare Gen Z's polarised rage. Conservative or progressive, they're done asking, as vigils mark a generation burning to dictate terms.

This September blaze is no fluke; it's the peak of a global firestorm symbolising 2025 as Gen Z's reckoning. Serbia's student-led anti-corruption blockades, burning since November

2024, flared in September with 5,000+ youth marching silently in Belgrade for snap elections, undeterred by tear gas. In Indonesia, September 7 marches raged against elite housing subsidies amid 13% unemployment, with #Reformasi2 memes exposing 'nepo' deals, echoing Nepal and sparking global vigils.

Recall Bangladesh, where Gen Z catalysed Sheikh Hasina's toppling in August 2024, using TikTok to expose corruption and storm government buildings, forcing her exile. The interim government under Muhammad Yunus now faces 2025's ashes—hundreds of lynchings, economic decay—but youth demands for 2026 elections burn on, inspiring Nepal's flames in turn. In Sri Lanka, the 2022 Aragalaya movement, where Gen Z occupied the presidential palace to oust Gotabaya Rajapaksa, showed youth rejecting half-measures, their memes and flags fanning systemic overhaul.

What fuels these fires? Gen Z's refusal to wait. Raised amid economic collapse, climate chaos, and elite impunity, they see institutions—governments, dynasties, universities—as kindling. Social media is their spark, turning local fury into global anthems. Nepal's 'nepo kids' hashtag, Bangladesh's anti-quota reels, Serbia's #SerbiaBezStranke, and Youth Demand's swarms blaze across borders. Unlike past generations, who sought reform through votes or talks, Gen Z strikes—through protests, violence, or flotillas—with unrelenting heat. France's youth ballots indirectly scorched Bayrou. Governments offer scraps, like Indonesia scrapping perks, but repression only fans the flames.

This awakening has a dark glow. Kirk's assassination, dubbed a 'political hit' by the FBI, shows how polarisation can burn deadly when Gen Z skips discourse for action. The suspect, a rifle-trained student, mirrors the precision of Nepal's firebombers or Indonesia's looters. Yet Thunberg's mission and UK rallies reveal Gen Z's moral blaze, risking all for solidarity. This duality—rage and righteousness—defines their 2025 inferno, a fire that could consume or illuminate.

What's scary is that we don't really know which. Gen Z's rejection of permission torches the status quo but risks reducing dialogue to ashes. Their digital spark and moral fire are strengths, yet violence—Kirk's killing, Nepal's arson—questions whether ends match means. India, with its own restless youth, must feel this global heat. Will our Gen Z wield weapons like in the case of the Kirk killing or courage like that of Thunberg? What 2025 already tells us is that their fire won't brook our tentativeness.

(The author is an independent writer)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: SEPTEMBER 1975

US rigidity blocks agreement on trade and aid

United Nations, September 14

Developing and industrialised countries kept up their backstage dialogue throughout yesterday on trade, aid and monetary reforms, the key issues confronting the current special session of the UN General Assembly. They, however, failed to reach an agreement until a midnight deadline set by them to call off their labours. Developing countries attributed the failure to reach a settlement to the rigid stand taken by the U.S. on all these issues.

25 YEARS AGO: SEPTEMBER 2000

Bill Gates announces .Net lab for Bangalore

New Delhi, Sept 14

Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates today announced the setting up of its first .NET (dotnet) laboratory in Bangalore to pioneer the next generation Internet to break down the barrier between "digital islands"—computers, devices and web-sites and industries—to realise the full potential of the .Net. Gates also spelt out his plans to establish a software development centre in Chennai, come up with Indian language versions of Windows and Office 2000 by next summer.

In a typical day, my friend went through life like anyone else. She had no signs, no drama and no reason to stop. Suddenly, without warning, a sharp pain gripped her chest. Soon after, she found herself in a hospital, her life hanging by a thread. Immediate medical care and intervention saved her, but the complications she faced made her survival seem miraculous. She told me, "It was a near-death experience and I am back." As Seneca once wrote, "It is not that we have a short time to live, but that we waste much of it." Those words echoed in my mind as I watched her recover. We live as if we were promised eternity, filling

our days with endless work and chasing achievements while neglecting what is truly important. But life has a way of showing us that our time is not infinite and that the luxury of "later" is an illusion.

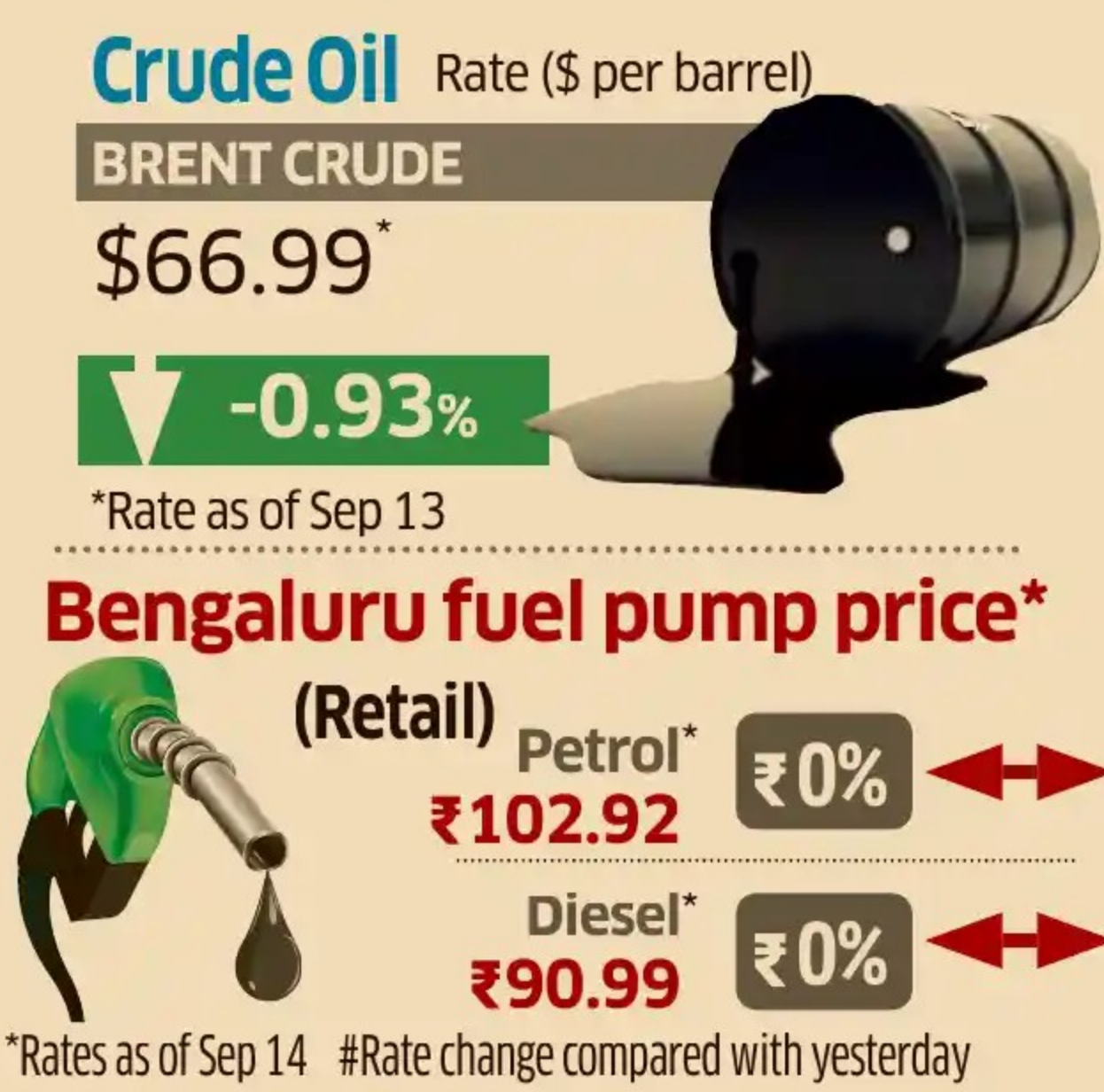
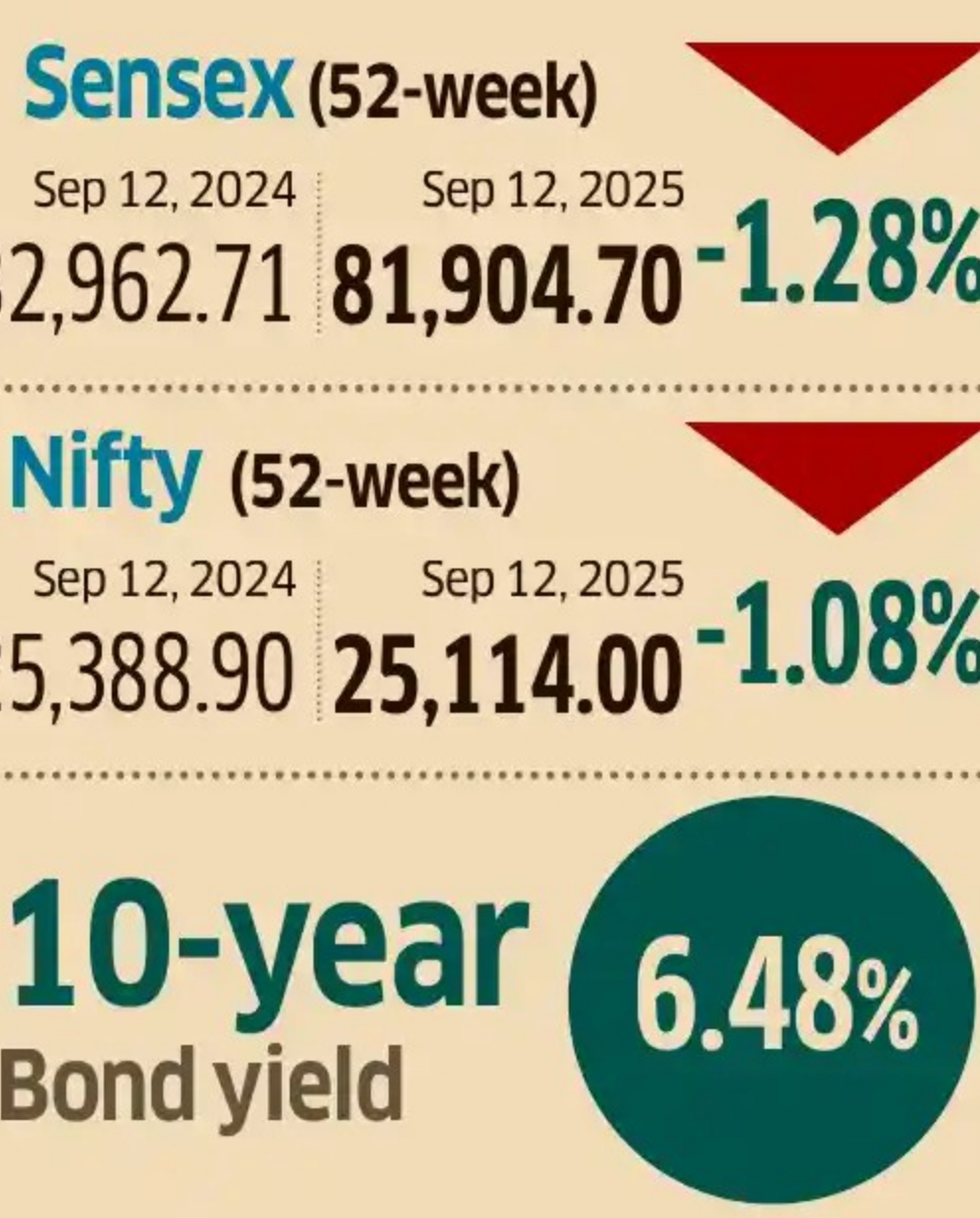
Moments like this shatter the illusion we live by. In ancient wisdom, the human body is likened to a temple, a sacred space that harbours the divine spirit and soul. Our body is more than just flesh and bone; it's considered a holy vessel of our soul. Yet, we treat it as an afterthought—feeding it poorly, pushing it too hard,

and ignoring its quiet pleas for rest. We act as if our bodies will always obey, until one day they don't. We often read about the importance of health and advise others, but we don't follow our advice. We usually convince ourselves that relaxation and health can wait until the next project is finished, the next promotion is earned, or the next problem is solved. We believe that love, laughter, and self-care will come "later." But we don't realise that "later" is not a promise; it's a gamble. A gamble that we are willing to take. The truth is, we waste more of our lives postponing than truly

living. My friend's close call with death changed her. She prays every morning, eats mindfully and protects her mental and physical health as fiercely as her commitments.

Let us take a moment to watch a sunset instead of rushing past. Let us stop living for "someday" and begin to embrace each moment as if it's our last. Because one day, it will be. Perhaps Seneca's warning is what we all need to hear: Life is not too short, but our careless living makes it seem that way. We cannot extend time, but we can choose not to waste it. And the best time to make that choice is now, before life stops us in our tracks.





Commodity watch	
COFFEE	
Category	Rate (Rs per 50 kg)*
Arabica Parchment	₹ 24700 - 28000
Arabica Cherry	₹ 14000 - 15700
Robusta Parchment	₹ 17000 - 17500
Robusta Cherry	₹ 10700 - 11650
*Rates as on Sep 11	
Other Commodities	
Silkworm cocoon (Rs per kg)*	
Bivoltine (BV)	₹ 702
Cross Breed (CB)	₹ 604
*Average rates as on Sep 12	

Blueprints for one more airport & two more cities are being drawn up

For two- and three-wheelers, battery swapping stations are another charging method we support. We supply key components, such as rectifier modules and controllers, for these stations. Delta's flexibility and comprehensive product range are our strengths.



TOP PICKS

The data is sourced from
Motilal Oswal Financial
Services Limited

Samvardhana
Motherson
(ID: MOTHERSON)

BUY

Upside **+10%****

Last close ₹104

Target: **₹114+**

Ellenbarrie
(ID: ELLEN)

BUY

Upside **+24%****

Last close ₹547

Target: **₹680+**

VIP Industries
(ID: VIPIND)

BUY

Upside **+20%****

Last close ₹442

Target: **₹530+**

Aditya Birla Sun Life
(ID: ABSLAMC)

BUY

Upside **+24%****

Last close ₹846

Target: **₹1,050+**

Swiggy
(ID: SWIGGY)

BUY

Upside **+33%****

Last close ₹420

Target: **₹560+**

* Target price has been calculated on the basis of fundamentals ** Upside refers to more value stock is expected to generate than its current price

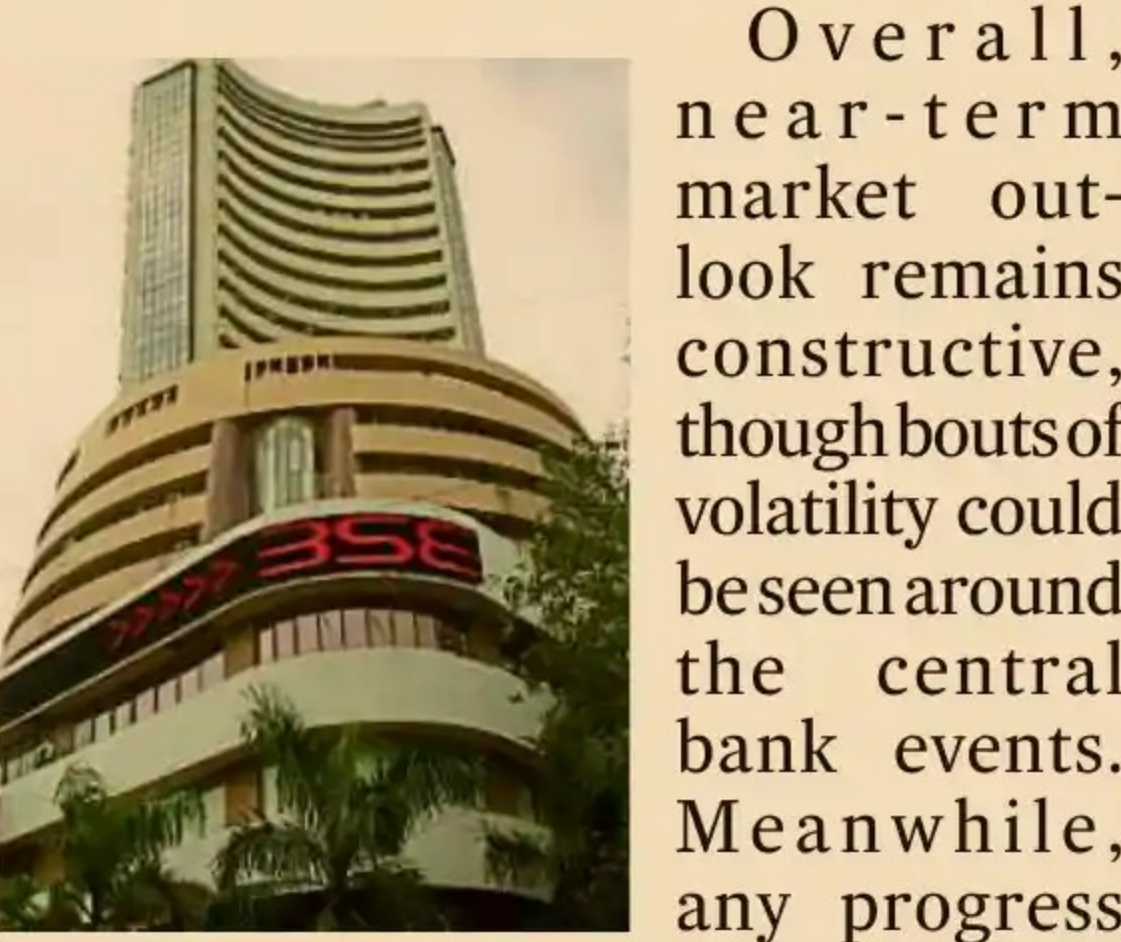
THE WEEK AHEAD

Markets seen extending gains made last week

SIDDHARTHA KHEMKA

Indian equity market is likely to extend its gradual up-move this week, supported by optimism around the GST-led consumption growth, expectations of a US Fed rate cut and improving sentiment around US-India trade talks. Adding to the positivity, Fitch Ratings has revised India's FY26 GDP growth forecast upward to 6.9% from 6.5%, citing resilience in domestic demand.

On the global front, a 25bps Fed rate cut is widely expected following weak US jobs data; though there is divergence in opinions on the pace of future cuts given the recent uptick in US inflation to 2.9% year-on-year in August (vs 2.7% in July). Further, interest rate decisions from the Bank of England and Bank of Japan will also be closely tracked for their implications on global liquidity and risk sentiment.



trade negotiations could further lift investor confidence.

Last week, Nifty50 advanced 372 points to close at 25,108 (+1.5%), marking its second consecutive week of gains since the approval of GST 2.0 reforms. The broader markets outperformed, with Nifty Midcap100 and Nifty Smallcap100 rising 2% each. Sectorally, Nifty IT led the gains with a 4.2% rally, tracking strength in US markets, while PSU banks, auto, and metal indices climbed over 2% each.

The revised GST rates will come into effect from September 22, together with the start of the festive season, and are expected to spur consumption across both rural and urban markets. While the government's initial policy thrust was on infrastructure and manufacturing, the focus has now shifted towards reviving consumption as a key growth driver.

The banking sector is likely to witness some weakness in Q2FY26 in terms of NIMs and asset quality, even as loan growth stays modest. We expect NIM contraction to intensify as banks are yet to absorb the full impact of the 50bps repo cut. However, margins should begin to recover in Q3-Q4FY26, aided by CRR benefits and easing SA/TD rates, which will help moderate funding costs. Along with normalised credit costs, this should support a meaningful earnings recovery in H2FY26.

IPO activity gained significant momentum in August with 17 IPO offerings, the highest since Sep'24. The capital market industry posted month-on-month growth in total average daily turnover (ADTO).

Looking ahead, Indian equities appear well placed to sustain their upward trajectory, supported by structural reforms, improving macro fundamentals, and resilient domestic demand.

(The writer is Head of Research, Wealth Management, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd)

Gold and silver rise amid tariffs and turbulence

On Friday, gold hit a high of \$3,657.60 an ounce (Source: Kitco Live Gold Prices), while silver traded above \$42, its strongest level in over a decade. In India, the rally has been sharper still: gold has crossed Rs 1 lakh-mark per 10 grams and silver (December Futures) crossed a record Rs 1,28,838 per kg in September (MCX), both record highs. Silver outpacing gold "slightly" this year.

So, what gives?

Global price drivers are familiar

There are expectations of the US Federal Reserve to continue cutting rates (despite inflation and job concerns thereby (re)fueling the rally), which weakens the dollar and strengthens non-yielding assets like bullion. Add increased geopolitical risks (Russia/Ukraine, Tariff Wars, Iran/Israel among others) and you have the classic recipe for a gold rally. Israel's attack on Qatar (a global energy heavy weight) threatening a wider conflict, helped the rally move to a higher gear.

Silver's appeal is broader

While it rises alongside gold as a safe haven, it is also in demand from industries like computer chips, solar, electronics and batteries, making it attractive. In the face of both Chinese designs on Taiwan and US restricting chip sales, a critical component in the global AI race, nations are racing to indigenise computer chip production further fuelling the rally.

India's story has an extra twist

The recent 50% US tariff on Indian exports has hit sectors like gems, jewellery, and textiles hard. Gujarat's bullion and diamond hubs report a fall in orders, with 20-25% revenue loss year-on-year. Yet the same disruption has redirected more domestic money into bullion. When trade flows falter, households and businesses may fall back on gold and silver as a store of value.

For investors, the key lesson is not to chase this rally blindly. Precious metals often overshoot in times of stress before settling back. Gold retains its place as a strategic hedge—a 5-10% allocation can



ANUBHAV SRIVASTAVA
MANAGING PARTNER,
ARYZEN CAPITAL
ADVISORS

work well as a buffer against inflation and crises. Silver is best treated as a tactical play, smaller in size but capable of adding a sharp edge to returns when growth and inflation align. Key rider being rebalancing the portfolio to realign with stated strategic objectives.

Instruments matter too

Physical investment gold (cast or minted bar) is cumbersome, with expensive storage and security risks for individuals not to mention purity concerns. It is good for gifting, not so much for investment.

On the other hand, Sovereign Gold Bonds were the most efficient vehicle—government issued, tracking prices while adding a 2.5% annual yield. However, SGBs have oddly become a casualty of the bullion's rise—with servicing costs rising. RBI has decided to call in the bonds with no further issuances in the offing.

Gold ETFs offer security, liquidity, and convenience. Silver exposure, meanwhile, is cleaner through ETFs or thematic funds than physical metal. Both are also mandatorily required to

allocate numbered bars to back ETF units trading on the exchange making these instruments convenient, safe, and readily tradable.

Today's headlines around tariffs and global turbulence only reinforce why gold and silver endure in portfolios. They are not designed to compound wealth but to preserve it, to function as stabiliser when policy shifts or politics unsettle markets. The smart approach is to keep allocations measured and consistent—enough to provide stability, but never so large as to compromise growth or be at the receiving end of a speculative bubble. However, for any investment shift, deep research and being aware helps with construction and investment management. Consider SEBI registered advisors for external help with larger goal alignments, neutral advice and understanding appropriateness of investments.

Tariffs will come and go. Central banks will change course. But gold and silver remain, steady reminders that in uncertain times, a touch of ballast is worth its weight.

Is AI the next co-engineer?

AI can build, predict, and perfect. It can outpace teams and clear the clutter. But it cannot shoulder what defines an engineer—the moment of choice, the weight of a yes or a no

CAROLINE DIANA
BENGALURU, DHNS

Once upon a time, not too long ago, when you walked into a multi-storied office tower in Bengaluru or Hyderabad—or any of India's IT hubs—you would have seen rows of cubicles with engineers bent over their screens, eyes fixed on lines of code that stretched late into the night. On the factory floor, you would have seen teams sketching designs on whiteboards, testing prototypes that snapped or stalled too soon, and sprinting across oil-stained floors when a machine broke down. Offshore teams in India lived this grind every day, powering global tech and manufacturing with scale, stamina, and precision.

Then came generative AI. In a blink, the familiar rhythm of engineering—design, test, repeat—was upended. Suddenly, machines weren't just assisting; they were taking on the role of co-creators. What began with copilots for code and models for predicting equipment failures is already moving further, and fast.

Ten years from now, AI may not stop at writing code or designing digital twins. It could build factories that run on their own, discover materials humans never imagined, and even sketch blueprints for habitats beyond Earth.

So will engineers still matter when machines can simulate entire economies? Will they still be relevant when AI balances global energy webs that stretch across continents? Will they even be needed when swarms of robots, trained by algorithms, can build in places humans cannot survive?

As layoffs ripple across the tech industry, the country faces its own pressing question: if overseas clients can lean on AI agents, will they still send projects to Bengaluru, Hyderabad, or Pune—or even contracts to India's factories and R&D hubs?

If the questions are big, the answers from industry are deliberately careful. AI, they say, is not taking engineers out of the picture, but it is rewriting the nature of their work. Ingenuity, judgement, and oversight remain essential—yet the profession now calls for adaptation and new discipline.

Infosys sets the tone around the craft itself. Satish H C, Executive Vice President & Chief Delivery Officer, Infosys, calls it a move "from a process- and skill-driven discipline into a cognitive, adaptive one powered by human-machine collaboration." For him, digital twins and AI agents are partners in a larger orchestration.

The shift is not only about faster cycles but also about collapsing boundaries between engineering and business.

From a classic 'Let's start building something' approach, engineers will now need to focus more on clearer problem definition.

Understanding a domain and adopting systems thinking will become more important than just translating a requirement into code.

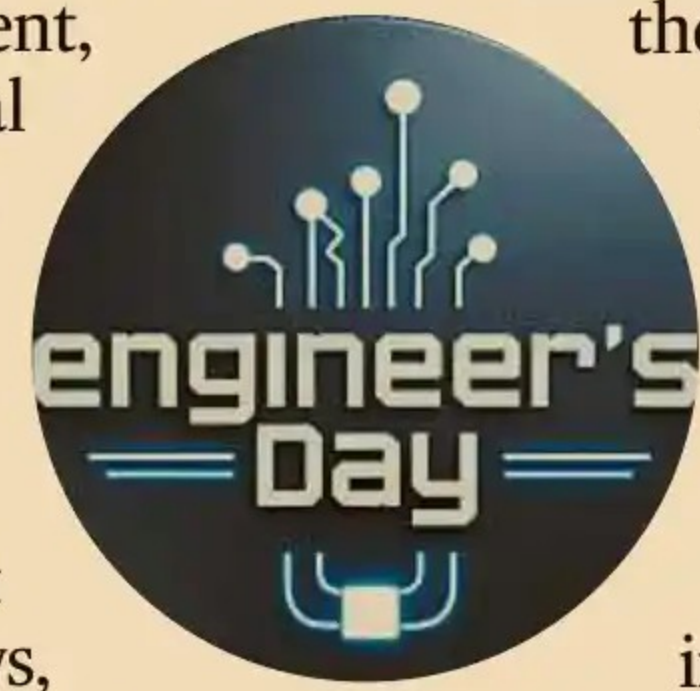
Jacob Peter
Executive Board of Management
Mobility R&D, Bosch Global Software Technologies, and Bosch Digital

Now, engineers must wear a business hat, interacting with clients, understanding and solving business challenges, and building minimal viable products with agility.

Mukesh Chaudhary
Lead - Data & AI, Advanced Technology Centers Global Network, Accenture

The role of engineers is changing, from being doers of engineering work to trainers and interrogators of intelligent machines, reviewers of work done by machines, and owners of critical thinking and creativity.

Harrick Vin
Chief Technology Officer, Tata Consultancy Services



Mukesh Chaudhary, Lead - Data and AI, Advanced Technology Centers Global Network, Accenture, says, "The integration of AI into engineering workflows has compressed solution development, enabling rapid prototyping and faster deployment." That speed, he argues, now forces engineers to think beyond code—to step into strategy and judgement.

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) adds another dimension to this shift, focusing on the fundamentals of engineering itself. Rather than just accelerating cycles, the company sees AI as changing the very questions engineers must ask. Dr Harrick Vin, Chief Technology Officer, TCS, says AI is shifting engineers from execution to interrogation. "The infusion of AI in engineering will require engineers to become significantly better at addressing the why and the what questions, in addition to answering the how questions, the traditional forte of engineering." He adds that engineers are no longer just doers but reviewers and trainers of intelligent machines—a role that blends soft skills with technical depth.

From fear to curiosity

AI is also changing how engineers see themselves. Ganesan Karuppanaicker, Chief Technology Officer, Birlasoft, observes that what began as anxiety is now turning into opportunity. "AI has radically compressed the design and iteration cycle ... and elevated engineers from troubleshooters to lifecycle optimisers," he says—a shift that has moved many from fear to genuine curiosity.

Beyond efficiency and iteration lies the question of identity: what does it mean to be an engineer in the age of AI? PVN Pavan Kumar, Vice President, APJ at Office of the CTO, SAP, likens it to moving from bricklaying to architecture. "You're designing

the house now, not stacking the bricks," he says, pointing to a future where engineers guide prompts and decisions rather than type every line of code.

As AI moves from the periphery into the core of engineering, the debate shifts from what it can do to how well it can do it. That's where IBM places its emphasis.

Amith Singhee, Director, IBM Research India and CTO, IBM India/South Asia, says AI "elevates quality and frees time for creativity and innovation," but cautions that this promise holds only if engineers take responsibility for reskilling and guiding the technology with discipline.

In manufacturing, mistakes don't just cost money—they can derail months of effort. That is why AI here is measured less by hype and more by its ability to reduce error and take weight off weary teams. Jacob Peter, Executive Board of Management—Mobility R&D, Bosch Global Software Technologies, and Bosch Digital, says the technology "simplifies mundane work" and accelerates development, giving engineers back time once lost to repetition.

Risk and ethics

Finance carries a different burden: trust. Every wrong calculation risks shaking confidence in entire systems. Engineers who once focused only on code now find themselves drawn into questions of risk, ethics, and accountability. Ruchika Panesar Country Head, India and Chief Digital & Information Officer, Group COO Functions, NatWest Group, notes that they now sit inside decision science and modelling, blending "design thinking, data literacy, and ethical awareness" with technical skill.

Entrepreneurs see the change in starker terms because they live

Today's engineers are empowered to move beyond execution into strategic thinking—shaping systems that learn, adapt, and evolve. This transformation instills a deeper sense of purpose and responsibility.

Satish HC
Executive Vice President & Chief Delivery Officer, Infosys

closer to the edge. For them, AI is not abstract—it is survival. Harneet Singh, Founder & Chief AI Officer, Rabbitt AI, puts it bluntly: the shift is like moving "from shovels to JCBs." In his view, engineers are no longer the ones digging line by line in the dirt. Instead, they stand above the pit, supervising the machine that does the heavy lift.

Intelligence at scale

Education leaders warn that the definition of an engineer itself is shifting. It's not just about writing code or keeping systems running—it's about enabling intelligence at scale. Vinod Venkatraman, Chief Technology Officer, Great Learning, says, "AI in engineering is best seen as both a tool and a collaborator rather than just a disruptor."

For industries built on trust, the stakes are sharper still. Ganesh Sivaramalingam, Director—Solution Architecture, TransUnion GCC India, says engineering is shifting from traditional design and development to intelligent orchestration of global platforms. "AI empowers engineers to optimise supply chains, predict system failures, and design resilient infrastructure," he notes, adding that today's engineer must be a hybrid thinker fluent in both domain and data science.

Resilience is where infrastructure companies see AI's biggest impact. Ajeya Motaganahalli, Vice President of Engineering and Managing Director, Pure Storage India R&D, calls AI an augmentor and collaborator, not yet a disruptor. "AI accelerates productivity by helping engineers analyze telemetry data, automate repetitive coding tasks, and even generate insights from thousands of reports," he says. Decisions on architecture, trade-offs, and accountability, he adds, remain firmly human-led.

But resilient systems are only one side

of the equation; resilient careers are the other. The same forces that reshape data workflows are also rewriting how engineers are hired, trained, and retained. Avinash Bhat, Global Head, Customer Experience & India Delivery Head, Randstad Digital, says AI is at once a tool, collaborator, and disruptor. "The age of AI is not about replacing engineers, but about empowering them to lead innovation," he says.

That question of relevance naturally opens up to the longer horizon. What kind of engineers will the world need two decades from now—and what role should

India play in shaping that future? Sudha KV, Vice President, Dell Technologies, sees the next era defined by AI, sustainable design, and closer collaboration between humans and machines. With powerful AI agents taking on more load, she says, the focus of learning will shift back to "core engineering and innovations involving power, cooling, and user experience." She stresses the need for diversity and entrepreneurship, adding that India, with its demographic advantage and diverse talent pool, is well placed to lead not only in producing engineers but also in building the educational content that will train them.

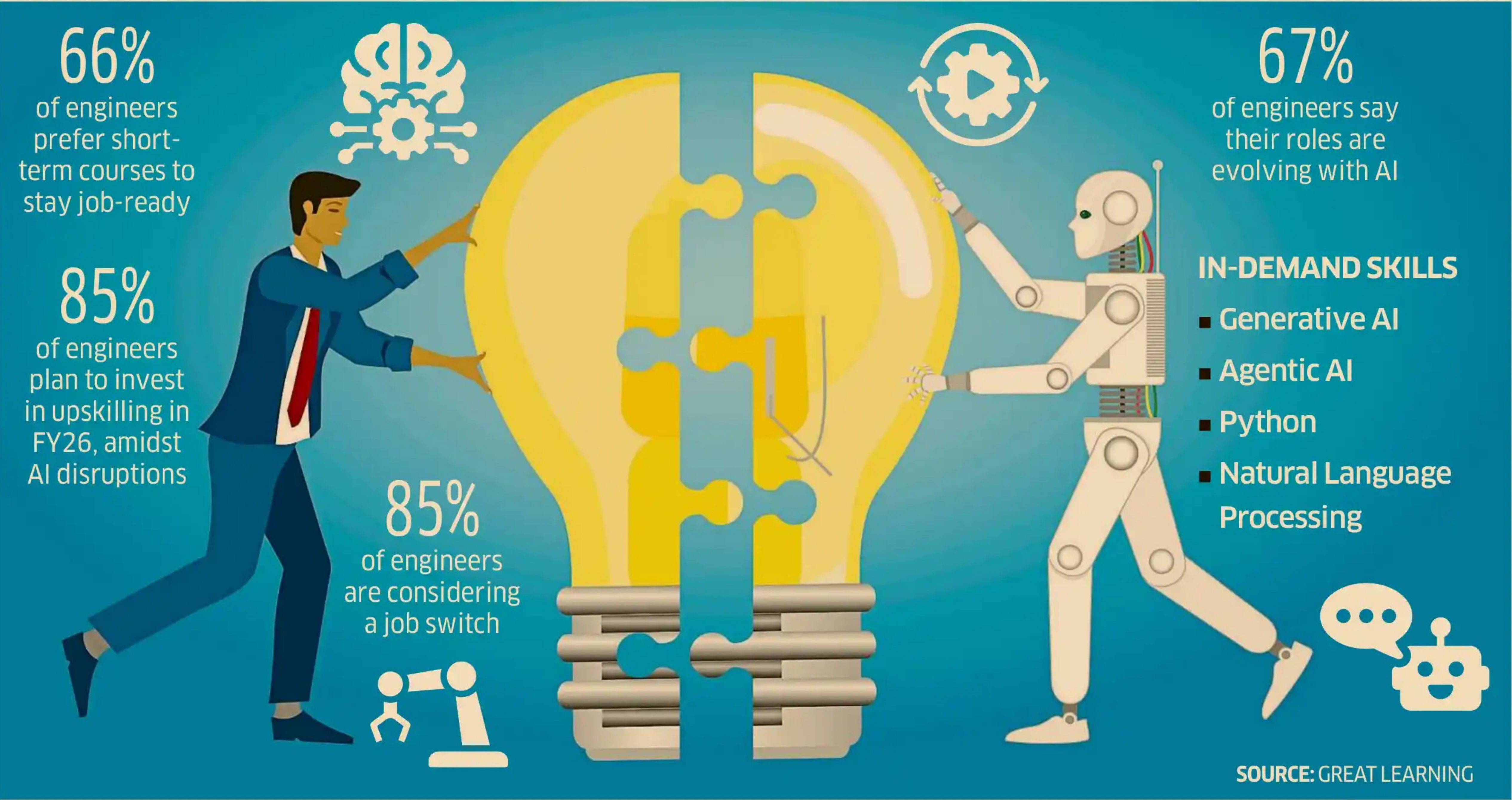
AI has taken over the grunt work—the bug fixes, the test cycles, the endless prototypes. What remains on the engineer's desk is the part no machine can resolve. The irony of AI in engineering is that it makes the human more visible. The code may be automated, the prototypes simulated, the risks modelled—but the call, the final "yes" or "no," still belongs to humans.

Good engineers work diligently to address challenges as they arise. Great engineers, however, invest time in solutions that eliminate entire categories of future problems.

Kusum Saini
Director - Principal Architect, Simplilearn

Companies are no longer limiting AI knowledge to technical teams, and are training across the board, from HR to admin to engineering, to leverage AI responsibly.

Vinod Venkatraman
Chief Technology Officer, Great Learning



To solve the puzzle:
The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

Baychimo wins SA Poonawalla Million

PUNE RESULTS
Nirad Karanjawala-trained Baychimo, ridden by Antony Raj, won the SA Poonawalla Million, the feature event of the Pune races on Sunday. Due to rains and underfoot condition of the race track not suitable for racing stewards of the club have decided to cancel the last two races of the day.
1. Excellent Sorrento Plate - 1200m: Red Dust (Aditya Waydande) 1; Etolie (Antony Raj) 2; Ariyana Star (Sandesh) 3; Arbitrage (Haridas Gore) 4; WB: 3/4, 2-1/4, 1-1/4L; T: 1:10.35; TB: Faisal Abbas; Fav: Ariyana Star.
2. Excellent Trophy - 1200m: Turn And Burn (NS Parmar) 1; Christophany (Neeraj Rawal) 2; It's My Time (Aditya Waydande) 3; Cellini (Pranil) 4; WB: Lnk; 1/2L; Nk; T: 1:09.25; TB: MK Jadhav; Fav: Divine Star.
3. Serum Institute Of India Trophy - 2400m: Bugatti (A Prakash) 1; Black Thunder (Neeraj Rawal) 2; Land Of Plenty (Aditya Waydande) 3; Exuma (NS Parmar) 4; WB: 4-1/2, 7-1/4, 5-3/4L; T: 2:36.98; TB: Pesi Shiroff; Fav: Bugatti.
4. Viloo C Poonawalla Million - 1200m: Mutual Trust (Sandesh) 1; All For Love (Yash Narredu) 2; Foxy (TS Jodha) 3; American Eagle (Mukesh Kumar) 4; WB: 2, 1, 8-3/4L; T: 1:10.06; TB: Suleiman Attaollahi; Fav: All For Love.
5. SA Poonawalla Million - 1600m: Baychimo (Antony Raj) 1; Zachaias (G Vivek) 2; Guns smoke (Yash Narredu) 3; Waitara (C Umesh) 4; WB: Lnk, 6, 3-1/4L; T: 1:40.05; TB: Nirad Karanjawala; Fav: Zachaias.
Bengaluru dividends
I race: Rs 125w; 18, 17, 10p; Fc: Rs 1,406; Q: Rs 512; Shp: Rs 31; Thp: Rs 76; Tri: Rs 889 & 193; Ex: Rs 2,834 & 1,133. **II race:** Rs 85w; Rs 16, 19, 38p; Fc: Rs 376; Q: Rs 222; Shp: Rs 35; Thp: Rs 86; Tri: Rs 2,765 & 1,002; Ex: Rs 55,756 (c/o). **III race:** Rs 16w; 11, 12p; Fc: Rs 31; Q: Rs 19; Shp: Rs 18; Thp: Rs 20; Tri: Rs 31 & 25; **IV race:** Rs 24w; 12, 12, p; Fc: Rs 39; Q: Rs 12; Shp: Rs 28; Thp: Rs 18; Tri: Rs 37 & 32. **Ex:** Rs 109 & 79. **V race:** Rs 41w; 15, 11, 20p; Fc: Rs 103; Q: Rs 38; Shp: Rs 31; Thp: Rs 51; Tri: Rs 172 & 100; Ex: Rs 4,895 & 3,702. **Jackpot:** Rs 188 (3158). **Treble:** Rs 104 (86).

Star Of Night shines bright

HYDERABAD RESULTS
Star Of Night, from the stables of Hilton Sequeira and ridden by BR Kumar, won the President Of India Gold Cup, the feature event of the Hyderabad races on Sunday.
1. Narayanpet Plate (Div II) - 1200m: Zuza (Trevor Patel) 1; Double Bubble (Akshay Kumar) 2; Assured Success (Mohit Singh) 3; Analysis (Naresht) 4; WB: 3/4, 3L; Hd: T: 1:15.21; TB: Deshmukh; Fav: Analysis.
2. Director General Of Police Cup - 1400m: Perception (Akshay Kumar) 1; Brilliant Lad (Sai Kumar) 2; Gloria (Trevor Patel) 3; Federer (Ajeeth Kumar) 4; WB: 1-3/4, 1-1/2L; Lnk; T: 1:29.14; TB: Robin Reddy; Fav: Brilliant Lad.
3. Totaram's Cup - 1600m: Nobel Heart (Kuldeep Singh) 1; Great Giver (Kuldeep Singh) 2; Armstrong (Deepak Singh) 3; China Town (Ajeeth Kumar) 4; WB: 4, 2-1/2, 2L; T: 1:41.07; TB: D Netto; Fav: Nobel Heart.
4. Artillery Cup - 1100m: City Of Moksha (Ajay Kumar) 1; Foxy Girl (HM Akshay) 2; State Man (Akshay Kumar) 3; Quintessential (Ashhad Asbar) 4; WB: 5, Hd, 1-1/2L; T: 1:07.27; TB: Nilesh Rawal; Fav: State Man.
5. President Of India Gold Cup - 2400m: Star Of Night (BR Kumar) 1; Pyrite (Kuldeep Singh) 2; Dyf (Trevor Patel) 3; Queen Of Kings (Vikrant) 4; WB: 1, Hd, 1-1/2L; T: 2:32.60; TB: Hilton Sequeira; Fav: Dyf.
6. Narayanpet Plate (Div II) - 1200m: Dashing Charm (Champakal Zaveri) Ashhad Asbar 1; Cherish The Lady (Sai Kumar) 2; Top In Class (Deepak Singh) 3; Lights On (Ahay Singh) 4; WB: 3-1/4, 7-1/2, 2L; T: 1:14.99; TB: Deshmukh; Fav: Cherish The Lady.
Bengaluru dividends
I race: Rs 29w; 11, 15, 21p; Fc: Rs 53; Q: Rs 41; Shp: Rs 26; Thp: Rs 42; Tri: Rs 481 & 579; Ex: Rs 1,543 & 324. **II race:** Rs 30w; Rs 12, 10, 16p; Fc: Rs 71; Q: Rs 22; Shp: Rs 32; Thp: Rs 25; Tri: Rs 68 & 48; Ex: Rs 168 & 102. **III race:** Rs 20w; 12, 24p; Fc: Rs 214; Q: Rs 115; Shp: Rs 84; Thp: Rs 44; Tri: Rs 772 & 360; Ex: Rs 1,927 & 516. **IV race:** Rs 44w; 13, 17, 15p; Fc: Rs 596; Q: Rs 245; Shp: Rs 44; Thp: Rs 77; Tri: Rs 559 & 153; Ex: Rs 16,237 & 13,918. **V race:** Rs 90w; 20, 16, 12p; Fc: Rs 1,763; Q: Rs 726; Shp: Rs 52; Thp: Rs 63; Tri: Rs 932 & 292; Ex: Rs 51,488 (c/o). **VI race:** Rs 75w; 16, 11, 42p; Fc: Rs 125; Q: Rs 50; Shp: Rs 32; Thp: Rs 117; Tri: Rs 1,285 & 1,285; Ex: Rs 10,366 & 3,257. **Jackpot:** Rs 19,169 (7). **Runner-up:** Rs 1,983 (29). **I treble:** Rs 218 (13). **II treble:** Rs 6,442 (c/o).

Corte Madera for main event

HYDERABAD SELECTIONS
Leo Desilva-trained Corte Madera is fancied to win the S Malakonda Reddy Memorial Cup, the feature event of the Hyderabad races to be run over a distance of nine furlongs at the races on Monday. The first race starts at 1:55 pm.
1. Asifabad Plate - 1200m: Fortune Art 1; Deccan Ranger 2; Dalil's Champion 3.
2. Silver Jet Plate (Div II) - 1200m: Ragnarok 1; Calistoga 2; Calista Girl 3.
3. Nelson Plate - 1400m: Mountain Touch 1; My Challenge 2; Pesarul 3.
4. S Malakonda Reddy Memorial Cup - 1800m: Corte Madera 1; Dapper Look 2; Black Dust 3.
5. Bhadrachalam Cup - 1200m: Calabassas 1; Knight Crusader 2; Clara 3.
6. Silver Jet Plate (Div II) - 1200m: Decoy 1; She Can 2; Star Forever 3. **Day's best:** Decoy. **Jackpot:** 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6. **I treble:** 1, 2 & 3. **II treble:** 4, 5 & 6.

Atiqa vrooms to victory in UAE

DUBAI, PTI: Indian racing's 10-year-old prodigy Atiqa Mir on Sunday created history by becoming the first girl in UAE karting to win a race in the Minimax category.
In a competitive field of 14 drivers including seasoned European race winners, Atiqa was the lone female but that was hardly a factor as she completed a commanding victory.

Jaismine, Minakshi leave a legacy in Liverpool

Indian duo crowned world champions, Nupur bags silver, Pooja claims bronze

LIVERPOOL, PTI

Jaismine Lamboria and Minakshi Hooda cemented their place in Indian boxing history here, clinching World Championship titles with gritty wins as the country capped off its best-ever campaign in the women's section on foreign soil.

Jaismine outclassed Paris Olympics silver medallist Julia Szeremeta of Poland in the 57kg summit clash late on Saturday night, prevailing 4-1 on the judges' scorecards (30-27, 29-28, 30-27, 28-29, 29-28) to end her stupendous campaign with a golden flourish.

Debutant Minakshi followed suit a day later on Sunday, out-punching Paris Olympics bronze medallist Nazym Kyzai-bay of Kazakhstan by the same margin in the 48kg final to exact revenge for her World Cup loss in July.

Adding to the glory were Nupur Sheoran (80+kg) and the seasoned Pooja Rani (80kg), who signed off with silver and bronze medals respectively, in non-Olympic weight categories. India thus ended with a haul of four medals, the best-ever in an overseas edition.

With their victories, Jaismine and Minakshi joined an

BOXING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS



Jaismine Lamboria (left) and Minakshi Hooda clinched gold medals at the World Boxing Championships as India capped off its best-ever campaign in the women's section on foreign soil. FILE PHOTO/X



illustrious list of Indian world champions featuring six-time winner Mary Kom, two-time champion Nikhat Zareen, Sarita Devi, Jenny RL, Lekha KC, Nitu Ghanghas, Lovlina Borgohain and Saweety Boora.

Competing in her third World Championships, the 24-year-old Jaismine grew steadily into the bout. After a relatively sedate start where both pugilists sized each other up, it was Szeremeta who drew first blood, prodded into action by the referee.

The much shorter Pole, who had lost the Olympic final to gender-row boxer Lin Yuting, was fast and precise, using

defensive manoeuvres to dart in and out. She negotiated Jaismine's long reach to win the opening round 3-2.

But the Indian came roaring back in the second. Adjusting her rhythm, she began controlling the distance, evading Szeremeta's advances, and unleashing crisp combinations that swayed all the judges in her favour.

Jaismine employed the jab with authority while defending stoutly. When the final verdict was announced, the usually serene Jaismine let out a brief yell, raising her hand before graciously embracing her crestfallen opponent. At the

medal ceremony, her eyes glistened as the Indian national anthem reverberated through the arena. Her's is the only medal that came in Olympic weight category.

In her final bout, Minakshi made the most of her physical advantage, using her long reach to pepper Nazym Kyzai-bay with sharp shots and keep the multiple World Championships medallist at bay. The 24-year-old from Rurki looked composed on the back foot, landing clean straight punches, even as the more experienced 31-year-old Kazakh pressed forward with aggression.

Meghana wins maiden WC medal

NINGBO (CHINA), PTI

India's Meghana Sajjanar clinched her first-ever World Cup medal, a bronze in the women's 10m air rifle, as the country finished fifth in the season-ending ISSF World Cup Rifle/Pistol.

In her first World Cup final in eight years, Meghana shot 230.0 to secure bronze behind Norwegian Jeanette Hegg Duestad, who won silver. The event was dominated by China's rising star Peng Xinlu, who shattered the world record with a score of 255.3, bettering



India's Meghana poses with her women's 10m air rifle bronze medal. NRAI

compatriot Wang Zifei's 254.8. On Saturday, Esha Singh gave India their first gold med-

Melissa, Seville sizzle

24-year-old sprint stars win men's and women's 100m races respectively

TOKYO, AFP

Oblique Seville and Melissa Jefferson-Wooden recorded their first major victories in winning the men's and women's 100 metres world titles on Sunday, making it honours even between sprint powerhouses Jamaica and the United States.

It was a good night in Tokyo for the Americans as two of their outstanding field athletes, Olympic champions Tara Davis-Woodhall and Varlarie Allman, won the women's long jump and discus respectively. For Allman, it filled a yawning space in her burgeoning medals cabinet—a world title.

There was a once-in-a-blue-moon ending in the men's 10,000m as Europe got the better of the cream of African distance running—France's Jimmy Gressier took the honours.

It was a first victory over the distance for a European since Somalia-born Briton Mo Farah in 2017—he also won in 2013 and 2015.

Seville secured Jamaica's first men's world 100m title in 10 years, leading home a Jamaican 1-2.
Results: Men: 100m: Oblique Seville (Jam) 9.77s, 1; Kishane Thompson (Jam) 9.82, 2; Noah Lyles (USA) 9.89, 3. **10,000m:** Jimmy Gressier (FRA) 28:55.77s, 1; Yomif Kejelcha (ETH) 28:55.83, 2; Andreas Almgren 28:56.02, 3. **Women: 100m:** Melissa Jefferson-Wooden (US) 10.61s (CR) 1; Tina Clayton (JAM) 10.76, 2; Julien Alfred (LCA) 10.84, 3. **Discus throw:** Varlarie Allman (US) 69.48m, 1; Jorinde van Klínen (NED) 67.50, 2; Silinda Morales (CUB) 67.25, 3. **Long jump:** Tara Davis-Woodhall (US) 7.13m, 1; Malalika Mihambo (GER) 6.99, 2; Natalia Linares (COL) 6.92, 3.



TOP: Jamaica's Oblique Seville celebrates after crossing the line to win the men's 100m final while USA's Melissa Jefferson-Wooden won gold in the corresponding women's race at the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo on Sunday. REUTERS/ AFP

Kushare into high jump final

Sarvesh Anil Kushare on Sunday became the first Indian to qualify for the high jump final at the World Athletics Championships, while national record holder Gulveer Singh finished 16th in the 10,000m race with a below-par performance.

The 30-year-old Kushare, who made it to the showpiece at the 34th spot among 36 competing athletes through world

ranking quota, scaled 2.25m to finish joint seventh in Group B of the qualification round. He ended at joint ninth in the overall rankings across two groups. Those who touched the automatic qualifying mark of 2.30m or at least 12 best made it to the final round.
In the men's 10,000m race, Gulveer finished 16th after clocking a time of 29 minutes 13.33 seconds.

Shuttlers settle for silver

HONG KONG, PTI: India squandered a golden opportunity to return with two titles as both Lakshya Sen and the men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty signed off with runner-up finishes at the Hong Kong Open Super 500 here on Sunday.

Lakshya could not blunt the attack of World No. 4 Li Shi Feng and went down 15-21, 12-21 in a rather sedate men's singles final.

Satwik and Chirag, who bagged a second successive World Championships

bronze last month, let go of a one-game advantage before losing 21-19, 14-21, 17-21 to China's Olympic silver medallists Liang Wei Keng and Wang Chang in a tense 61-minute men's doubles summit clash.

"Yeah, obviously feels good. Been a good week, especially after the World Championships a week later and here we are playing a final. Feels good," Chirag said. "You would want to go and win that title but I think, credit to them, they played well."

China crush India's World Cup hopes

HANGZHOU (CHINA), PTI

The Indian women's hockey team faltered when it mattered the most, losing 1-4 to China in the final of the Asia Cup to miss out on direct qualification for next year's World Cup, here on Sunday.

India drew the first blood through a penalty corner conversion by Navneet Kaur in the very first minute itself before China came into their own, scoring through Zixia Ou (21st minute), Hong Li (41st), Meirong Zou (51st) and Jiaqi Zhong (53rd) to win their third title in tournament and secure their passage to the 2026 World Cup, to be held in Belgium and Netherlands.

India got their first scoring chance within 39 seconds of the start of the match in the



China players celebrate after defeating India to win the Women's Asia Cup in Hangzhou on Sunday. x

form of a penalty corner and Navneet was on target to hand her side an early lead. Three minutes later, China had a bright chance to draw level when they earned back-to-back penalty corners, but the Indians defended brilliantly. Stunned by the early goal,

China went on the offensive and mounted continuous raids on the Indian half, but the Salima Tete-led side held its ground stoutly. The Chinese kept up their relentless pressure on the Indian citadel and earned another set of penalty corners two minutes into

the second quarter but failed to breach the resolute opposition defence.

China created chances after chances, keeping the ball almost in the Indian circle but were unable to find the equaliser. The home team's relentless pressure finally paid off as it secured the equaliser in the 21st minute through a penalty corner conversion by Zixia Ou. The equaliser seemed to have lifted the morale of China as they continuously pushed for the lead, keeping the India defence under tremendous pressure. However, both teams went into half-time break locked at 1-1.

China, though, were the more dominant side in the first half. India switched gears after the change of ends and played attacking hockey, albeit without much success.



FC Bengaluru United's Nikhil Raj Murugesh Kumar (left) celebrates with his team-mates after scoring a goal against MEG and Centre FC on Sunday. DH PHOTO/ PUSHKAR V

Nikhil's strike power FCBU

BENGALURU, DHNS: FC Bengaluru United posted their second consecutive victory in the KSFA Super Division League Championship as they defeated MEG & Centre FC 1-0 at the Bengaluru Football Stadium on Sunday.



Nikhil Raj Murugesh Kumar's lone goal in the 24th minute of the game proved enough after FCBU started their campaign with a 6-0 rout of Bangalore Dream United FC in their opening match of the season.

Meanwhile, 2024 champions Bengaluru FC B posted back-to-back wins too as they defeated ASC & Centre FC 3-0 in their latest match. **Results:** BFC 3 (Serto Wornellen Kom 29th P, MD Abhash 54th, Taorem Kelvin Singh 90th) bt ASC & Centre FC; FC Bengaluru United 1 (Nikhil Raj Murugesh Kumar 24th) bt MEG & Centre FC; 0; Re-bels FC 1 (Sahil Rashid Dar 35th) bt Bharat Bengaluru FC; 0.

Atletico beat Villarreal
Atletico Madrid beat Villarreal 2-0 to earn their first win of the La Liga season. **Results:** Atletico Madrid 2 (Barrios 9th, Gonzalez 52nd) bt Villarreal; 0; Athletic Bilbao 0 lt to Alaves: 1 (Berenguer 57th OG); Levante 2 (Romero 2nd, Eyong 10th) drew with Real Betis; 2 (Cucha 45th, Fornals 81st); Celta Vigo 1 (Boja 90+2nd) drew with Girona; 1 (Vanat 12th).

Haaland double for City sinks United in derby

MANCHESTER, AFP

Erling Haaland (in pic) struck twice as Manchester City inflicted another damaging defeat on Manchester United boss Ruben Amorim with a comprehensive 3-0 win on Sunday.

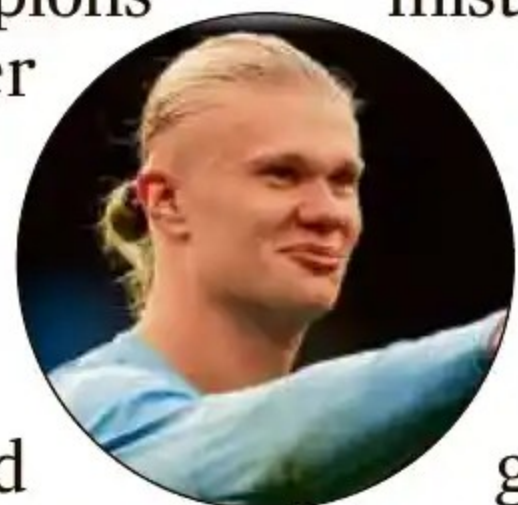
Phil Foden opened the scoring before Haaland took centre stage with a second-half double, either side of an incredible miss from the Norwegian, as City bounced back from two consecutive Premier League defeats. United went into a derby ahead of City in the table

for the first time in five years. City remain six points adrift of leaders Liverpool, but victory is a huge confidence boost for Pep Guardiola's side ahead of facing Serie A champions Napoli and Premier League title rivals Arsenal next week.

Salah scores late
Mohamed Salah scored a stoppage-time penalty against Burnley on Sunday as Liverpool maintained their perfect record to return to the top of the Premier League. Scott Parker's men had

doggedly kept the champions at bay but a Hannibal Mejbri handball in the dying seconds gave Salah a chance to win the match, and he made no mistake.

Liverpool are the first side in Premier League history to win four consecutive games with winning goals scored in the final 10 minutes or later. Earlier, Chelsea missed the chance to go top of the Premier League as Fabio Carvalho's 93rd-minute equaliser salvaged a 2-2 draw for Brent-



IN BRIEF

Probables for Asian qualifiers

► Fresh from India's creditable third-place finish in the CAFA Nations Cup, the national men's football team head coach Khalid Jamil on Sunday announced a 30-member probables squad, including talisman Sunil Chhetri, for the upcoming AFC Asian Cup qualifier against Singapore, reports PTI from New Delhi.

The team's preparatory camp will begin in Bengaluru on September 20. **Probables: Goalkeepers:** Amrinder Singh, Gurmeet Singh, Gurpreet Singh Sandhu. **Defenders:** Anwar Ali, Bikash Yumnam, Chinglensana Singh Konsham, Hmingthamawia Ralte, Muhammed Uvais, Prithamveer, Rahul Bheke, Ricky Meetei Haobam, Roshan Singh Naorem. **Midfielders:** Ashique Kurumyan, Danish Farooq Bhat, Jackson Singh Thounaojam, Jithin MS, Macarion Louis Nickson, Mahesh Singh Naorem, Mohammed Aimen, Nikhil Prabhu, Suresh Singh Wangjam, Vibin Mohanan. **Forwards:** Irfan Yadav, Lalizanzuala Chhangte, Manvir Singh (jr), Mohammed Sanan K, Muhammed Suhail, Parthib Gogoi, Sunil Chhetri, Vikram Partap Singh.

Hitaashee, Ridhima T-24

► Indian golfers Ridhima Dilawari and Hitaashee Bakshi finished Tied-24th at the Swiss Ladies Open, reports PTI from Zug, Switzerland.

Boxer Hatton no more

► Former world boxing champion Ricky Hatton has died aged 46, Britain's Press Association news agency reported Sunday, reports AFP from London.

Vaishali back in joint lead

SAMARKAND (UZBEKISTAN), PTI: Indian Grandmaster R Vaishali beat former world champion Mariya Muzychuk of Ukraine and jumped into joint lead after the end of the 10th and penultimate round in the women's section of FIDE Grand Swiss here on Sunday.

In the open section, the Indian challenge for a berth in the Candidates almost evaporated as Arjun Erigaisi played out a draw with Yu Yangyi of China and erstwhile joint leader Nihal Sarin also could only hold Nodirbek Abdusattorov of Uzbekistan.

R Praggnanandhaa's aim to make it to the Candidates from here ended after he lost to Hans Moke Niemann of the United States.

Abhishek, Tilak to join India A ranks

MUMBAI, PTI: Opener Abhishek Sharma, left-arm pacer Arshdeep Singh, Tilak Verma and Harshit Rana were on Sunday named in India A squad for the second and third one-dayers against Australia A.

India A squads: 1st one-day match: Rajat Patidar (c), Prabh-simran Singh (wk), Rivan Parag, Ayush Badoni, Suryansh Shedge, Vipraj Nigam, Nishant Sindhu, Gurjapneet Singh, Yudhvir Singh, Ravi Bishnoi, Abhishek Porel (wk), Priyansh Arya, Smirajeeet Singh. **2nd and 3rd one-dayers:** Tilak Varma (c), Rajat Patidar (vc), Abhishek Sharma, Prabhsimran Singh (wk), Rivan Parag, Ayush Badoni, Suryansh Shedge, Vipraj Nigam, Nishant Sindhu, Gurjapneet Singh, Yudhvir Singh, Ravi Bishnoi, Abhishek Porel (wk), Harshit Rana, Arshdeep Singh.

ON TV

CRICKET
Asia Cup: UAE vs Oman (5:30 pm), Sri Lanka vs Hong Kong (8 pm). **LIVE on Sony Ten 1.**

ATHLETICS
World Championships: Day 3 (4:30 am). **LIVE on Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

KABADDI
PKI: Gujarat Giants vs Haryana Steelers (8 pm), Bengaluru Bulls vs Telugu Titans (9 pm). **LIVE on Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

CRICKET ASIA CUP

India in a league of their own

Spinners shine as holders hammer Pakistan by 7 wickets

R KAUSHIK
DUBAI

The anticipated full house was conspicuous by its absence, but that didn't stand in the way of a command all-round performance by India at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Sunday night.

Somehow managing to keep their wits about them amidst the strident calls to boycott their T20 Asia Cup against Pakistan, Suryakumar Yadav and his men cruised to a seven-wicket victory with 25 deliveries to spare, the margin perfectly reflective of their unquestioned superiority.

Even though seven of the last eight matches between the two teams have been won by the chasing side, Salman Agha chose to bat, perhaps believing that the unused track would get slower as the evening progressed. But by the midway stage of the game, it was apparent that his ploy had spectacularly backfired after India's spinners, led by Kuldeep Yadav and Axar Patel, restricted Pakistan to 127 for nine.

Kuldeep, who took four for seven against UAE, ended up with three for 18 while Axar, who mixed up his pace beautifully, took two wickets while also conceding only 18. If Pakistan's innings wasn't an entire no-show, it was only because of Shaheen Shah Afridi's un-

beaten 16-ball 33, which contained four towering sixes including a brace in the final over from Hardik Pandya.

Any nerves India's dugout might have entertained were immediately quelled by the effervescent Abhishek Sharma. Relishing batting alongside Shubman Gill, the left-hander drilled Afridi's first ball of India's chase back past him for four, then creamed the next over long-off for six.

First Gill, and then Abhishek, fell victims to Sam

Yadav's off-spin, but Abhishek's breezy start meant Suryakumar and Tilak Varma could afford to take their time. Their half-century alliance hauled India to within touching distance of victory, and the captain then celebrated his 35th birthday

in style by depositing Sufiyan Mugeem over mid-wicket for the six that formalised India's victory.

Suryakumar and Shivam Dube walked off without the customary shake of the hands with Pakistan's players; at the toss too, there was no hand-shake between Suryakumar and Agha, the skippers barely making eye contact.

Ayub had been dismissed without scoring against UAE two nights back and his miserable run with the bat continued when he drove the first legal ball of the evening, from Pandya, to point. Mohammad Harris, the star of the victory in that match, perished to Jasprit Bumrah in the next over and at six for two, Pakistan faced a long road back.

Sahibzada Farhan, the other opener, and Fakhar Zaman, who has been a thorn in India's flesh in the past, briefly resisted. Zaman tried to get on top of the bowling but India's spinners



Captain Suryakumar Yadav top-scored with 47 not out during India's successful chase against Pakistan at the Asia Cup in Dubai on Sunday. AP/PTI

kept him honest, while Farhan struggled to rotate strike even though he hit two sixes off Bumrah, who again bowled three overs in the Power Play.

Pakistan were shackled between overs seven and ten, which produced a mere seven runs for the loss of two wickets. Axar, with his clever changes of pace, did the damage in that phase, after which Kuldeep took over, once again hoodwinking the batters with his clever variations and his judicious use of the wrong'un.

Unable to fathom which way the ball was turning, Pakistan's batters hit out in hope rather than conviction and provided several catches in the deep well held by India's fielders at a ground where catching has been an issue in the past. Afridi threw caution to the winds, striking the ball cleanly, but as entertaining as his knock was, it was too little and far too late.

Dedicate win to Indian armed forces: Skipper Suryakumar

Skipper Suryakumar Yadav on Sunday dedicated the Indian team's thumping seven-wicket victory over Pakistan in the Asia Cup to the country's armed forces and said that his side stands with the victims of the Pahalgalam terror attack, reports PTI from Dubai.

"I think it's a perfect occasion and taking the time out, we stand by with the victims of the families of Pahalgalam terror attack and we express our solidarity," Suryakumar told the broadcaster after the match here.

"Also the most important thing for me, we want to dedicate today's win to all our armed forces who

showed a lot of bravery and hope they continue to inspire us all and we give them more reasons on the ground, whenever we get an opportunity to make them smile," he added.

The Indian team players were not seen shaking hands with their Pakistan counterparts after the match.

There was also no hand-shake between the two captains—Suryakumar and Pakistan's Salman Agha—during the coin toss as they handed over their respective team sheets to match referee Andy Pycroft from Zimbabwe and spoke with broadcaster and former India player Ravi Shastri.

SCOREBOARD			
PAKISTAN			
Ayub c Bumrah b Pandya 0 (1b)	Agha c Abhishek b Axar 3 (12b)	(16b, 4x6)	5-64 (Hasan, 12.4), 6-64 (Nawaz, 12.5), 7-83 (Farhan, 16.1), 8-97 (Ashraf, 17.4), 9-111 (Mugeem, 18.6)
Farhan c Pandya b Kuldeep 40 (44b, 1x4, 3x6)	Hasan c Axar b Kuldeep 5 (7b)	(6b, 2x4)	Abrar (not out) 0 (0b)
Harris c Pandya b Bumrah 3 (5b)	Nawaz lbw b Kuldeep 0 (1ab)	Extras (W-4, NB-1) 5	Bowling: Pandya 3-0-34-1 (W-4), Bumrah 4-0-28-2 (nb-1), Chakravarthy 4-0-24-1, Kuldeep 4-0-18-3, Axar 4-0-18-2, Abhishek 1-0-5-0'
Zaman c Tilak b Axar 17 (15b, 1x4)	Ashraf lbw b Chakravarthy 11 (14b, 1x4)	Total (for 9 wkts, 20 overs) 127	Fall: 1-1 (Ayub, 0.1), 2-6 (Harris, 1.2), 3-45 (Zaman, 7.4), 4-49 (Agha, 9.6),
	Afridi (not out) 33		INDIA
			Abhishek c Ashraf b Ayub 31

Central Zone on the cusp of victory

Ankit, Siddarth slam fifties but late collapse sinks South Zone

VIGNESH BHARADWAJ
BENGALURU, DHNS

South Zone swept, drove, cut, sliced and blocked as they fought to live another day and take the Duleep Trophy final into the last day at the BCCI's Centre of Excellence here in Bengaluru.

A couple of late and decisive dismissals has Central Zone on the cusp of the championship as Ankit Sharma's valiant (99 off 168 balls) and Andre Siddarth's patient (84 not out off 190 balls) did just enough to take the game into day 5, setting Central Zone a paltry target of 65 runs for the crown.

There were a few frustrated looks from the Central players, while there were lots of cheers

and claps from the South dressing room from the start of the second session up to 4:30 pm. And then disaster struck.

All of Ankit and Siddarth's grit and gumption that sparked a glorious fightback was undone by a bizarre brain-fade, where the Puducherry guest player miscued a flighted delivery off Kumar Kartikeya high up in the air, only into the hands of Rajat Patidar at midwicket.

The dismissal triggered a mini collapse, and out of nowhere, South Zone went from 414/6 to 426 all out, with the hard work suddenly and irretrievably going downhill.

Gurjapneet Singh (3), MD Nidheesh (0) and Vasuki Koushik (0) all came and went in a span of just under six overs. However, it could have been much worse for the hosts.

When Ankit joined Siddarth in the middle, SZ were 222/6, still needing 140 runs to save a humiliating innings defeat. That is when they started to build a wall, which eventually turned into a fort to produce a



South Zone's Ankit Sharma pulls one during his doughty 99-run knock against Central Zone at BCCI's Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru on Sunday. DH PHOTO/PRASHANTH HG

partnership that South Zone desperately held onto.

The duo put together 192, South's best stand by a fair margin in the game. They absorbed all the pressure before reaching their respective fifties and then launched a calculated attack to thwart the tired bowlers.

With every run from the deficit ticked off and as the partnership started to slowly grow, they also grew in confidence with their feet starting to move better. But a frantic 30 minutes of play flipped the script completely in Central's favour.

Earlier on, Deepak Chahar opened CZ's push for the win in warm and sunny conditions. After a steady first nine overs, Ricky Bhui looked to flick one towards mid-on off Chahar, but the ball brushed the outside edge and went straight into Shubham Sharma's hands at slip.

With the skipper Mohammed Azharuddeen in, CZ were preying on his jittery start, waiting for a mistake. And it did come when he tried pushing one past short covers on 19. Patidar, however, didn't capitalise on the opportunity. He then committed another,

trying to pull but hit it straight to short mid-wicket on 27.

On the other side, sensing Ravichandran Smaran's aggression gave Central the best hope of another breakthrough and he fell for the bait when Kartikeya flighted one, picking out the square leg fielder on 67.

The game, however, could have taken a different turn if not for Central, who shelled three chances in the first session on the fourth day.

However, just as it was in the first innings, Kartikeya and Saransh played the starring roles, bagging seven out of the 10 wickets.

Butter-fingered India crumble against Australia

MULLANPUR, PTI

India dropped four catches as fine half-centuries from Phoebe Litchfield, Beth Mooney and Annabel Sutherland powered Australia Women's to a crushing eight-wicket victory in the first ODI here on Sunday. Batting first, India posted 281 for seven, and Australia completed the chase in 44.1 overs. Litchfield (88 off 80 balls) was dropped twice while Mooney (77 not out off 74) and Ellyse Perry (30 retired hurt) received a lifeline each, as the Australians took a 1-0 lead in the three-match affair, which precedes the upcoming ODI World Cup.

During their stay in the middle, Mooney and Sutherland (54 not out off 51) added 116 runs for the third wicket. Mooney, whom Deepti Sharma dropped on 56, struck nine fours in her knock while Sutherland had six hits to the fence.

India had done fairly well in the first half of the game to set the visitors a 282-run target, putting their money on their spin battery, but when chances were produced, the fielders came up short. Litchfield made the most of three lifelines to make 88 runs with 14 fours.

However, Litchfield had the Indians to thank for that since she received a lifeline as early as in the second over

Lankans look to roll over HK

DUBAI, PTI: Sri Lanka will look to build on their perfect start in Asia Cup when they take on a struggling Hong Kong here on Monday.

Sri Lanka, who won the Asia Cup the last time it was held in the T20 format, ticked all boxes in their opener against Bangladesh.

From getting wickets in the Powerplay to sealing the game inside the first six overs with the bat, Sri Lanka sent ominous signals to the tougher teams in the eight team competition.

They meet Hong Kong, a side which has lost two games in a row with its batters having a tough time against the more accomplished opponents.

Considering their batting struggles, a drastic improvement will be needed against Sri Lanka to make a match out of it.

The pace duo of Nuwan Thushara and Dushmantha Chameera would be fancying themselves against Hong Kong's fragile top-order.

If the Yasim Murtaza led unit is able to negotiate them in the Powerplay, overcoming spinner Wanindu Hasaranga could prove to be a tougher task. Trust Hasaranga to target the stumps and fox the batters with an odd googly.

UAE, Oman seek points

Hosts United Arab Emirates will look to shake off the drubbing against India when they face debutants Oman in a Group A clash at the Asia Cup here on Monday.

UAE, playing only their second Asia Cup, were skittled for a mere 57 in 13.1 overs in their opener as India raced to their fastest T20 win.

Oman too fared no better, bowled out for 67 in 16.4 overs while chasing 161 against Pakistan, underlining the gulf in class between the associate teams and the tournament heavyweights.

SL VS HK: 8 PM; OMAN VS UAE: 5:30 PM. LIVE SONY SPORTS NETWORK

when Jemimah Rodrigues spilt a sitter at midwicket off Sneh Rana when the Australian was yet to open her account.

While the Indians did try their best to build pressure on the Australians in the field, the dropped catches and the occasional misfields did not help.

Earlier, half-centuries by Pratika Rawal (64), Smriti Mandhana (58) and Harleen Deol (54) lifted India Women's to a competitive total. India were served well by their top order batters with each of them hitting their stride to make significant contributions, even as the middle order players did not get going.

Brief scores: India: 281/7 in 50 overs (Pratika Rawal 64, Smriti Mandhana 58, Harleen Deol 54; Megan Schutt 2-54) It to Australia: 282/2 in 44.1 overs (Alyssa Healy b Gould 27, Phoebe Litchfield 88, Ellyse Perry 30 ret'd hurt, Beth Mooney 77 n.o., Annabel Sutherland 54 n.o.). **Result:** Aus won by 8 wkts. **PoM:** Phoebe Litchfield. **2nd ODI:** Sept 17, Mullanpur.



Harmanpreet Kaur

Karnataka's young paddlers Siddhanth, Sakshya clinch titles

BENGALURU, DHNS: Karnataka paddlers M Siddhanth and Sakshya Santosh topped the podium in the under-13 youth boys' and under-11 youth girls' singles categories respectively at the 2nd UTT National-ranking Table Tennis

Championships in New Delhi on Sunday.

Siddhanth's strong start against West Bengal's Gem Mahalanabish gave him enough confidence to seal the deal in the fourth and grab the title (11-3, 11-7, 7-11, 13-11).

It was a rather straightforward affair for Sakshya as she scored an 11-3, 11-9, 11-5 win over West Bengal's Dayita Roy to claim the top prize.

In the under-11 youth boys singles semifinal, Karnataka's Sharvil Karambelkar suf-

fered an 8-11, 5-11, 7-11 defeat to Rajdeep to come back home with a bronze.

Results U-13 Youth Boys Singles (final): M Siddhanth (Kar) bt Gem Mahalanabish (WB) 11-3, 11-7, 7-11, 13-11. **U-11 Youth Boys (semifinals):** Rajdeep bt Sharvil Karambelkar (Kar) 11-8, 11-5, 11-7. **U-11 Youth Girls (final):** Sakshya Santosh (Kar) bt Dayita Roy (WB) 11-3, 11-9, 11-5.